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ABSTRACT

This is a handbook for teachers in the Idaho public schools who are concerned with teaching patriotism through instilling respect for the American flag. The sections give ready reference on such topics as history of the flag and patriotic traditions, the pledge of allegiance, the national anthem, proper methods of display, care of the flag, patriotic days to observe, and showing respect for the flag when displayed. A final chapter is concerned with Idaho state symbols. (CWE)

EDO 45515

# PATRIOTIC HERITAGE



STATE OF IDAHO  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
BOISE, IDAHO

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STATE OF IDAHO  
Department of Education

PATRIOTIC HERITAGE

Grades K-12

Published by  
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of Public Instruction

## FOREWORD

The greatest symbol of liberty we have in our democracy is our American Flag. As good Americans, each citizen should take it upon himself to understand the meaning and the usage of our Flag as it is displayed to symbolize that in which we so strongly believe.

This publication "Patriotic Heritage," not only explains the history and meaning of our American Flag, but explains its uses, customs, observances, care, respect, and the symbolization of our great nation.

I take this opportunity to commend the Social Studies section of the Department of Education and Mrs. Sara M. Fowler for an excellent bulletin about our Flag available for use in our public schools.



D. F. ENGELKING  
State Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

## PREFACE

The twentieth century has evolved as an ideological age. Many ideas have competed for men's allegiance in the modern world. An ideology is supported by the allegiance of the people who accept its total demands. Deep in its heritage, American ideology is firmly rooted. A few men with an inspired idea founded a great nation. They believed in freedom under God which in a few short years was to ignite new fires of liberty for many other nations around the world. America is a continuing experiment so nobly created by her founders who carved a nation out of a wilderness and were fiercely proud and faithful to their conviction. This dedicated patriotism must be retained and its principles continually practiced. Two centuries ago, since its conception, careful consideration is still being given to determine whether a nation can endure without each generation's continued loyalty, love of land and faith, exercised in perpetuating its fundamentals of freedom.

America must continue to appeal to the conscience of her people and to all humanity in order to maintain the goals of freedom. A democracy of worth brings forth the best in her citizens. The world awaits to see the determination and sincerity with which American youth will continue to take up the challenge of shaping the future, and helping to advance their generation with God-given wisdom.

The story of the origin of our National Flag parallels that of country. As our nation received its birthright from the peoples of many lands who gathered to found a new nation, so did the pattern of the Stars and Stripes rise to become emblazoned on the standards of our republic.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Grateful acknowledgement is made to the following for source information assistance in the writing of the publication "OUR FLAG: SYMBOL OF LIBERTY".

OUR AMERICA AND AMERICAN HERITAGE - State Department of Public Instruction, Phoenix, Arizona

THE AMERICAN CITIZENS HANDBOOK - The National Education Association, Washington, D. C.

IDAHO, THE GEM STATE - Idaho State Department of Education  
Boise, Idaho

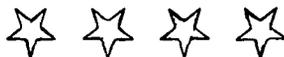
HOW TO DISPLAY AND RESPECT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES  
United States Navy Recruiting Service

IDAHO ALMANAC, TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL EDITION - Idaho Department of Commerce and Development, State Capitol Building  
Boise, Idaho

THE WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA - Field Educational Publications, Inc., Chicago, Illinois

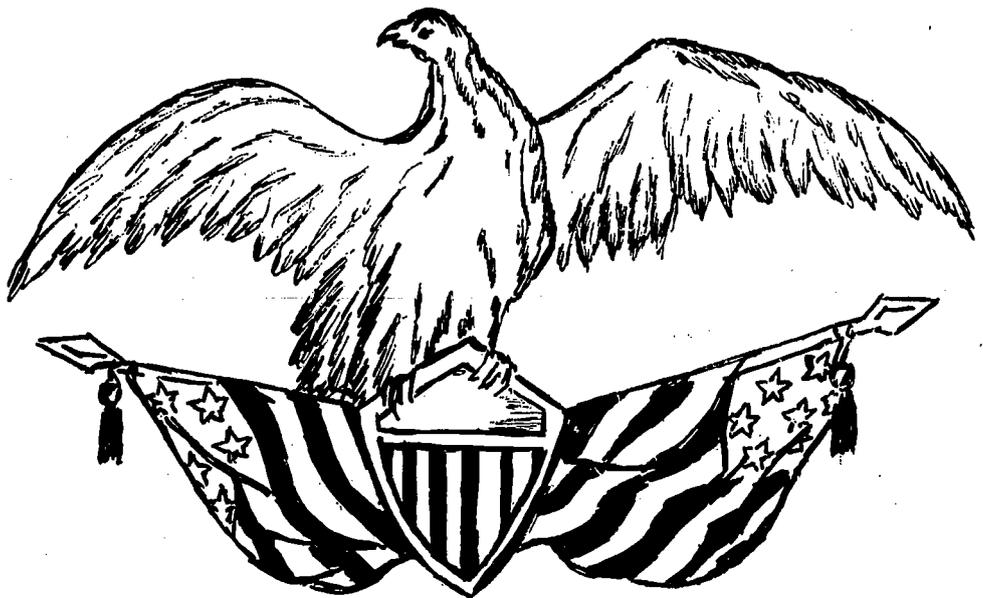
THE ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA - American Corporation, Chicago, Illinois

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OUR AMERICAN FLAG:  
SYMBOL OF LIBERTY AND PATRIOTIC HERITAGE

The American Flag means more than mere association and reward. It is the symbol of national unity, national endeavor, and national aspiration. It tells of the struggle for independence, of union preserved, of liberty and union one and inseparable, of the sacrifices of brave men and women to whom ideals and honor of this nation were more dear than life.

It further means America first, an undivided allegiance--It means that one cannot be saved by the valor and devotion of ancestors; that to each generation comes its patriotic duty; that upon the willingness to sacrifice and endure as those before have sacrificed and endured rests the national hope.

It speaks eloquently of equal rights; of the inspiration of free institutions exemplified and vindicated; of liberty under law intelligently conceived and impartially administered. There is not a thread in it but scorns self-indulgence, weakness, and rapacity. It is impressive of our common destiny.

Charles Evans Hughes, Chief  
Justice of the Supreme Court

Our Flag carries American ideas, American history, and American feelings. Beginning with the colonies, and coming down to our time, in its sacred heraldy, in its glorious insignia, it has gathered and stored chiefly this supreme idea: Divine right of liberty in man. Every color means liberty, every thread means liberty; not lawlessness, not license; but organized institutional liberty - liberty through law, and law for liberty!

Henry Ward Beecher

To me, patriotism is one's love or devotion to one's country. Having its roots in religion, it includes respect for our leaders, honor for our heroes, compliance with our laws, belief in our ideals, and a stout defense of the integrity of America. Patriotism also is an open declaration of faith and confidence in our constitutional concepts and a heartfelt gratitude for the many blessings God has given us.

The role of education in fostering patriotism in our young people cannot be overemphasized. Young Americans must be taught the great heritage left by our forefathers. They must be well-versed in and have full knowledge of our traditions of freedom. They should be taught not only by words, but also by deeds. To achieve this end, America's schools must be staffed by men and women who are well trained, competent, and thoroughly imbued with a passion to serve the greater good of mankind, in order that the American way shall not be adulterated by subversive elements or misled by miscreant theories.

J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

## THE AMERICAN FLAG: ITS MEANING

The first American Flag is said to have been made by Betsy Ross, a widow. She owned a little shop on Arch Street, Philadelphia. The story goes that General George Washington, with two friends, called on her in June, 1776, and asked her to make the Flag for the new Republic. The Flag she made had thirteen white stars in a circle in the blue field and thirteen stripes, red and white.

A year later - June 14, 1777 - Congress made this the official Flag of the country. This day is now known as Flag Day.

As each new state entered the Union, a star was added to the blue field of the Flag.

The American Flag is known as "The Star-Spangled Banner," "Old Glory," or "The Red, White, and Blue."

As the stars and stripes were born amid battle strife, the first flags adopted by the nation's forefathers were highly symbolic of their struggles with the hazards of colonizing a new land. The first Flag had the 13 stars arranged on a blue Union placed in a circle so that no colony would take precedence. The makeup of the National Flag has always contained thirteen stripes except for the period 1794 to 1818 when it had fifteen. The Union has constantly changed as is noted in the circle surrounding the present Flag.

Every strip, star, color, in it, means something vital to the life of the American people.

The thirteen stripes stand for the thirteen original colonies that banded together to fight for freedom and democracy.

The red stripes stand for the courage and bravery of the sons of America, who have given their lives that liberty may live.

The white stripes stand for freedom and peace, which all true citizens of America hold sacred.

The blue field means the loyalty of American citizens to the principles of our government, their readiness to uphold the Constitution of our country, and their devotion to the Flag.

The stars represent the states in the Union, showing how America has grown from thirteen colonies in 1776 - when she declared herself a free people - to fifty states, now.

## THE PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

"I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS; ONE NATION, UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL."

### AMENDMENTS

1942 - Act Dec. 22, 1942, substituted "all present should face the Flag and salute", in last sentence, for "the salute to the Flag should be given".

The manner of delivery of the pledge should be rendered by standing with the right hand over the heart. However, civilians will always show full respect to the Flag when the pledge is given by merely standing at attention, men removing the headdress. Persons in uniform shall render the military salute. (June 22, 1942, ch. 435, § 7, 56 Stat. 380; Dec. 22, 1942, ch. 806, § 7, 56 Stat. 1077; Dec. 28, 1945, ch. 607, 59 Stat. 668; (June 14, 1954, ch. 297, 68 Stat. 249.)

1954 - Act June 14, 1954, inserted "under God," in the pledge.

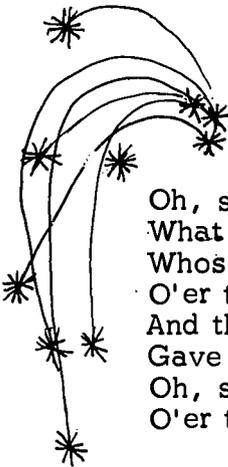
1945 - Act Dec. 28, 1945, inserted "The following is designated as", inserted the period after "justice for all.", and deleted "is rendered by standing with the right hand over the heart." in the first sentence, and inserted second sentence "Such pledge should \* \* \*."

1942 - Act Dec. 22, 1942, deleted words: "extending the right hand, palm upward, toward the Flag at the words 'to the Flag' and holding this position until the end, when the hand drops to the side.", at end of first sentence.

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

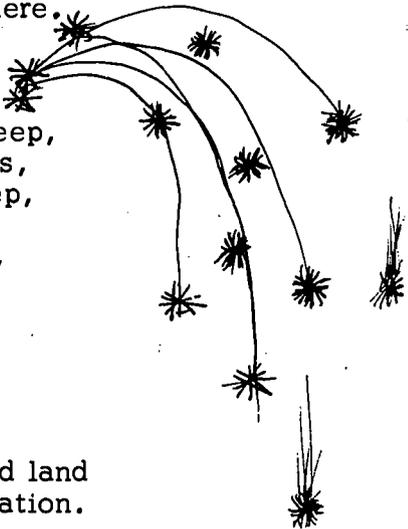
During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the Flag, or when the Flag is passing in review or parade, all present face the Flag, stand at attention, and salute. Those in uniform render the righthand salute. When not in uniform, men should remove the headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Women salute by placing the right hand over the heart. The salute to the Flag in the moving column is rendered at the moment the Flag passes.

When the "Star-Spangled Banner" - adopted by the Congress in 1931 as the national anthem--is played and no Flag is displayed, all present should stand and face towards the music. Those in uniform salute at the first note of the anthem, retaining this position until the last note of music. All others stand at attention, men removing their headdress. When the Flag is displayed, the regular salute to the Flag should be given. Words of the national anthem are sung with the music at designated times.



THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Oh, say! can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?



On the shore, dimly seen, through the mists of the deep,  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,  
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream.  
'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner, oh, long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!



Oh, thus be it ever when free-men shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our Trust."  
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Francis Scott Key - John Stafford Smith

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER, adopted by Congress in 1931 as the national anthem of the United States, was written by Francis Scott Key, a Baltimore lawyer, in 1814. England was at war with the United States and Key had gone aboard a British warship to arrange the release of an American prisoner. He was forced to stay on board during the night-long bombardment of Fort McHenry near Baltimore. In great anxiety he wondered whether the fort could withstand the British attack. At day-break, as firing ceased, Key saw the Stars and Stripes still waving. In joy and relief he wrote this great poem. It was later adapted to an English melody entitled "To Anacreon In Heaven," credited to John Stafford Smith. The arrangement used here is the Service Version prepared for the Army and Navy song and band books and for school and community singing.

## THE AMERICAN'S CREED

I BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE: WHOSE JUST POWERS ARE DERIVED FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED: A DEMOCRACY IN A REPUBLIC: A SOVEREIGN NATION OF MANY SOVEREIGN STATES: A PERFECT UNION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE: ESTABLISHED UPON THOSE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM, EQUALITY, JUSTICE, AND HUMANITY FOR WHICH AMERICAN PATRIOTS SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES AND FORTUNES.

I THEREFORE BELIEVE IT IS MY DUTY TO MY COUNTRY TO LOVE IT; TO SUPPORT ITS CONSTITUTION; TO OBEY ITS LAWS; TO RESPECT ITS FLAG; AND TO DEFEND IT AGAINST ALL ENEMIES.

## HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN'S CREED

In 1916-1917 much discussion took place in the United States as to what really constituted "the political faith of America." The press of the country took up the matter and inaugurated a contest open to all Americans to secure the best summary. This contest received informally the approval of the President.

The City of Baltimore, being the birthplace of the Star-Spangled Banner, offered a prize of \$1,000, which was accepted, and the following committees appointed:

A Committee on Manuscripts, consisting of Porter Emerson Browne and representatives from leading American magazines, with headquarters in New York City; a Committee on Award, consisting of Mathew Page Andrews, Irvin S. Cobb, Hamlin Garland, Ellen Glasgow, Julian Street, Booth Tarkington and Charles Hanson Towne; and an Advisory Committee, consisting of Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, Governors of States, United States Senators, and other National and State officials.

The winner of the contest and the author of The Creed selected proved to be William Tyler Page, of Friendship Heights, Md., a descendant of President Tyler and also of Carter Braxton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

## FROM CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

The complete proceedings in regard to the official acceptance of The American's Creed may be found in The Congressional Record No. 102, April 13, 1918, from which is taken the following explanation of the doctrinal origin of The Creed.

"The United States of America" - Preamble Constitution of the United States.

"A government of the people, by the people, for the people" Preamble Constitution of the United States; Daniel Webster's speech in the Senate, January 26, 1830; Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg speech.

"Whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed" - Thomas Jefferson, in Declaration of Independence.

"A democracy in a republic" - James Madison, in The Federalist, No. 10; Article X of the Amendment to Constitution.

"A sovereign Nation of many sovereign States" - "E pluri-bus unum" a great seal of the United States; Article IV of the Constitution.

"A perfect Union" - Preamble to the Constitution. "One and inseparable" - Daniel Webster's speech in the Senate, January 26, 1830.

"Established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes" - Declaration of Independence.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it" In substance from Edward Everett Hale's "The Man Without A Country."

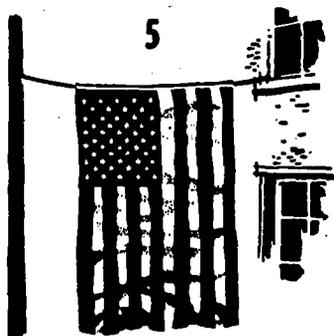
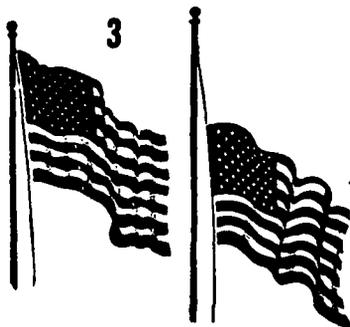
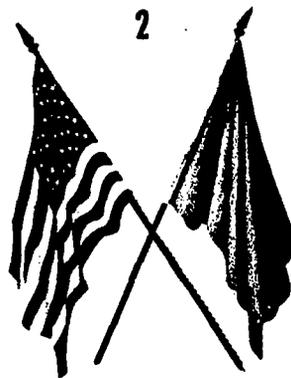
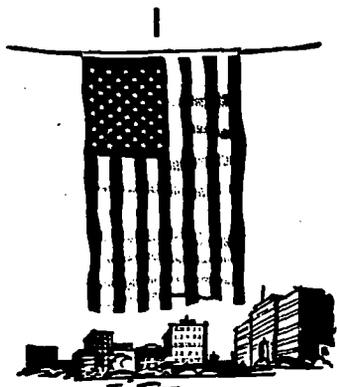
"To support the Constitution" - Oath of Allegiance, Section 1757, Revised Statutes of the United States.

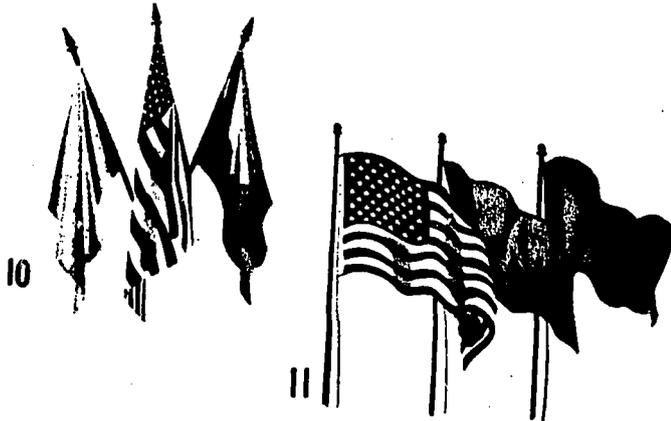
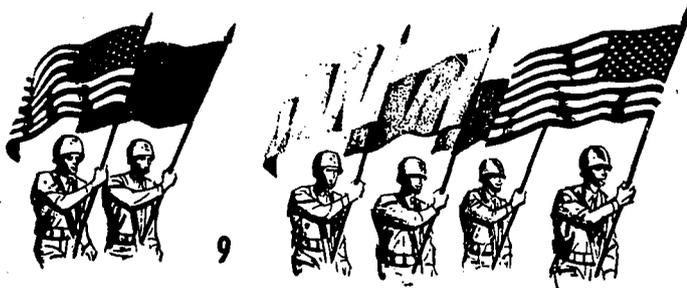
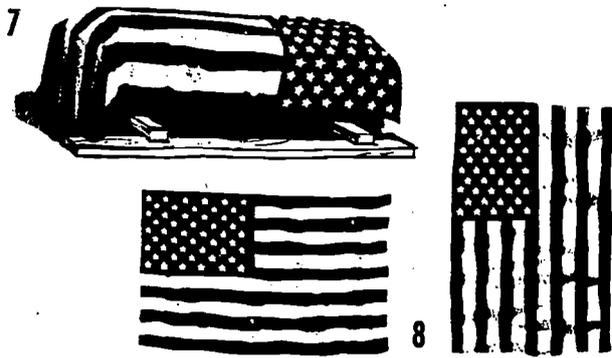
"To obey its laws" - Washington's Farewell Address; Article VI, Constitution of the United States.

"To respect its Flag" - National Anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner; Army and Navy Regulations; War Department circular on Flag Etiquette, April 14, 1917.

"And to defend it against all enemies" - Oath of Allegiance. Section 1757, Revised Statutes of the United States.

Official Version





## HOW TO DISPLAY THE FLAG

- . When displayed over the middle of the street, the Flag should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street, or to the east in a north and south street.
- . When displayed with another flag from crossed staffs, the Flag of the United States should be on the right (the Flag's own right) and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.
- . When the Flag is to be flown at half-mast, it should be hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-mast position; but before lowering the Flag for the day it should again be raised to the peak. By half-mast is meant bringing down the Flag to one-half the distance between the top and the bottom of the staff. On Memorial Day, display the Flag at half-mast until noon only; then hoist to top of staff.
- . When flags of states or cities or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the Flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When flown from adjacent staffs the Stars and Stripes should be hoisted first and lowered last.
- . When the Flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope, extending from house to pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the Flag should be hoisted out from the building, toward the pole, Union first.
- . When the Flag is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at any angle from the window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the Union of the Flag should go clear to the peak of the staff (unless the Flag is to be displayed at half-mast).
- . When the Flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the Union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The Flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.
- . When the Flag is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the Union should be uppermost and to the Flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window it should be displayed in the same way, that is, with the Union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street. When festoons, rosettes or drapings are desired, bunting of blue, white, and red should be used, but never the Flag.
- . When carried in a procession with another flag or flags, the Stars and Stripes should be either on the marching right, or when there is a line of other flags, our National Flag may be in front of the center of that line.

## HOW TO DISPLAY THE FLAG

(continued)

- When a number of flags of states or cities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs with our National Flag, the latter should be at the center or at the highest point of the group.
- When the flags of two or more nations are displayed they should be flown from separate staffs of the same height and the flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.

## WHEN TO DISPLAY THE FLAG

The Flag can be displayed on all days when the weather permits, especially on New Year's Day, January 1; Inauguration Day, January 20; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, February 22; Easter Sunday (variable); Mother's Day, second Sunday in May; Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May; Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), May 30; Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Citizenship Day, September 17; Columbus Day, October 12; Veterans Day, November 11; Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November; Christmas Day, December 25; the birthdays of states (dates of admission); State holidays; and such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States.

## APPROVED CUSTOMS

The highest of honors are rendered to the National Flag and laws have been written to govern its use. Custom has also decreed certain observances in regard to its use.

- The National Flag should be raised and lowered by hand. It should be displayed only from sunrise to sunset, or between such hours as may be designated by proper authority. The Flag must always be unfurled before being raised. It should be lowered slowly and with dignity. Place no objects on or over the Flag.
- During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the Flag or when the Flag is passing in a parade, those men wearing civilian clothing salute by removing their headdress and placing it over their heart. Women salute by placing the right hand over the heart.
- To indicate mourning the Flag is lowered to half-mast, or half-staff.
- Take every precaution to prevent the Flag from becoming soiled. It should not be allowed to touch the ground or floor, nor to brush against objects.
- When the National Flag is worn out, dispose of it with due reverence. According to an approved custom, the Union is first cut from the Flag; and then the two pieces which no longer form a Flag, are cremated.

## MARKS OF RESPECT TO THE FLAG<sup>1</sup>

No disrespect of any kind should be shown to the Flag of the United States.

The National Flag should be flown daily from sunrise to sunset in good weather from public buildings, schools, permanent staffs, in the open and near polling places on election days. The Flag may be flown at night on special patriotic occasions.

The Flag should always be flown on national and state holidays and on those occasions proclaimed by the President. On Memorial Day, the Ensign should be half-staffed until noon.

The Flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. It should never be dipped to any person or thing nor should it ever be displayed with the Union down except as a signal of dire distress.

The Flag should never be allowed to touch anything beneath it, nor should it ever be carried flat or horizontally - always aloft and free. It should never be used as drapery or decoration, for carrying or holding anything, or stored in such a manner that it will be damaged or soiled.

The Flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever, nor should any picture, drawing, insignia or other decoration be placed upon or attached to the Flag, its staff or hal-yard. The Flag should not be embroidered on personal items nor printed on anything designed for temporary use and then discarded.

Based on Public Law 829, 77th Congress

## CAUTIONS IN DISPLAYING THE FLAG

- Do not display or store the Flag in such manner that it will be soiled or damaged. When no longer in condition for use, the Flag should be destroyed privately and reverently; preferably by burning.
- Do not use the Flag as drapery in any form. Use red, white, and blue bunting.
- Do not display the Flag on a float in a parade except from a staff.
- Do not drape the Flag over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle, railroad train, or boat. When displayed on a motor car,

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<sup>1</sup>The Flag of the United States, U.S. Navy Recruiting Service

## CAUTIONS IN DISPLAYING THE FLAG

(continued)

the flagstaff should be affixed firmly to the chassis, or clamped to the radiator cap.

- Do not use the Flag as a portion of a costume or athletic uniform. Do not put it on cushions, handkerchiefs, or boxes.
- Do not put lettering upon the Flag.
- Do not use the Flag in any form of advertising or fasten an advertising sign to a pole from which the Flag is flown.

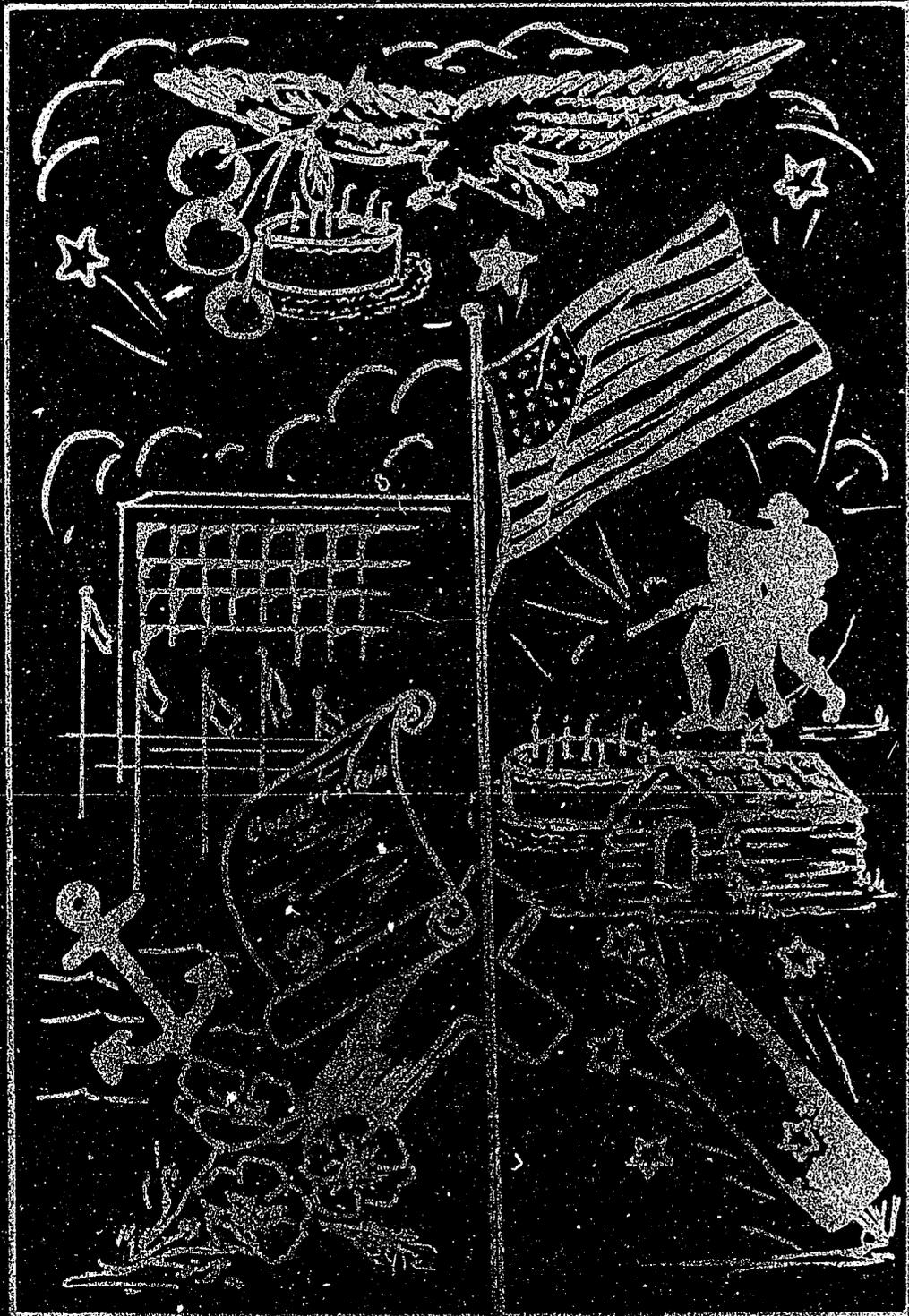
The American Citizens Handbook  
The National Education Association of  
The United States - Wash., D. C.

## CARE OF THE FLAG

The National Flag should be folded carefully and put away when not in use. The United States Flag may be given a special military fold. It should first be folded twice lengthwise to form a long strip. Then, starting at the stripe end, it should be given a series of triangular folds. The resulting compact triangle looks like a cocked hat. If the Flag is permanently attached to its staff, it should be furled, or wrapped around the staff. It should then be cased, or wrapped with a cover.

The National Flag may be mended, dry-cleaned or washed. An old Flag, or one with an out-of-date design, may be displayed as long as it is in a respectable condition. When it has become so ragged or badly soiled that it is no longer fit for display, it should be destroyed in some dignified way, preferably by burning.

- Do not permit disrespect to be shown to the Flag.
- Do not let the Flag touch the ground, deck or water.
- Do not drape the Flag over a vehicle, train, or boat.
- Do not use the Flag as a covering for anything.
- Always carry the Flag aloft and free.
- Do not use the Flag as a portion of costume or dress.
- Do not put lettering of any kind on the Flag.
- Do not let advertising be attached to the Flag pole.
- Use bunting for decorations and be sure the blue is on top.
- Always treat the Flag of another nation with the same respect you show for the United States Flag.
- The church pennant is the only flag ever to be hoisted over the Flag. It is displayed only during divine services.
- Displaying the Flag upside down is a recognized signal of distress.



PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

CONSTITUTION WEEK AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

UNITED NATIONS DAY

VETERANS DAY

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

MEMORIAL DAY

FLAG DAY

INDEPENDENCE DAY

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### CONSTITUTION WEEK AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

September 17-24

Great were the hearts and strong the minds,  
Of those who framed in high debate,  
The immortal league of love that binds  
Our fair empire, state with state.

William Cullen Bryant

On September 17, 1787, delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia proudly signed their names to a remarkable document--the Constitution of the United States. It has been termed "the finest expression ever made of the determination of a free people to govern themselves and protect their liberty."

Constitution Day has now expanded to Constitution Week--a week-long observance of this great event and document. September 17 has come to be known as Citizenship Day, an outgrowth of an observance formerly held in May under the title of "I Am An American Citizen Day." This particular day has special significance for naturalized citizens.

#### CONCEPTS

People of a community, family, or other societal groups whose members have some common purposes, need to set up lines of authority for order and justice.

Constitutional government can best be preserved if the citizens accept active responsibility.

Constitutional government is not removed from us, but is vitally present in our daily life.

Our main root, constitutional government, was planted by our forefathers many years ago and from it stems our national heritage.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Using pictures of historical personalities connected with the Constitution, familiarize the pupils with the story of the writing of the document.
- Display pictures of the Capitol Buildings, a map of the United States, a copy of the Constitution and pictures of present congressmen from the local area and encourage the pupils to talk about them, or write a composite story about them.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### CONSTITUTION WEEK AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

(Continued)

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Present biographical sketches of persons connected with the beginnings of constitutional government. Leave in library as resource material.
- . Show how the Constitution was the extension of the principles of freedom set forth in the Declaration of Independence.
- . Choose a citizen of the week, or in some way recognize performance of duty.
- . Collect and interpret political cartoons and pictures.
- . Interview or invite to the classroom an elected official to discuss the Constitution or a naturalized citizen to share his experiences in gaining citizenship status.

### UNITED NATIONS DAY

October 24

We..people of every faith..of every creed..join together..pleading for truth, justice and charity among men we pray for Thy omnipotent aid in this hour of imperiled civilization...

John Golden

October 24 has been designated as a day to call attention to the United Nations in its continuing efforts to achieve world peace.

A meeting of the four major powers was called at Washington in the autumn of 1944, at which a preliminary outline was drafted, becoming the basis of a charter issued from a conference of fifty nations convened at San Francisco in April 1945 as the war in Europe drew close to an end and victory in the Pacific seemed assured.

The Charter of the United Nations established an international body measurably stronger than the old League of Nations. But it had the same basic defect of giving each of the five nations on the Security Council - the United States, Britain, Russia, China, and France - a veto on every decision.

In 1947 the General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing October 24 as United Nations Day, marking the anniversary of the day in 1945 on which the majority of the signatory nations had ratified the United Nations Charter. The United States Senate ratified the Charter by a vote of 89 to 2 on July 28, 1945.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### UNITED NATIONS DAY

(Continued)

The first session of the United Nations was held in London on January 10, 1946. The next year the organization moved into temporary headquarters at Lake Success of Long Island. Construction thereafter began on the United Nations Center beside the East River at the foot of East 43rd Street in New York City, with completion in 1950 making that striking complex of buildings the center of a world effort to maintain peace.

#### CONCEPTS

Although the United Nations has not been successful in all its endeavors, it is the most effective and universal meeting ground on which the nations of the world can discuss common problems and, hopefully, resolve conflicts without resorting to armed conflicts.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Biographies of outstanding personalities connected with United Nations, with pictures and charts showing its organization.
- Listen to radio broadcasts of United Nations meetings or to news about the United Nations.
- Make a detailed study of the United Nations Charter and compare it with the Constitution of the United States.
- Invite speakers who have traveled or lived in other countries to address the class on problems of other peoples.
- Listen to or play music of other countries such as the national anthems, folk songs, and works of representative composers.
- Make a U.N. flag from cloth or paper, or draw one on the chalkboard, using blue and white chalk. Discuss the meaning of the flag's emblem.
- Write a class letter, requesting materials for classroom use, to the United Nations, Department of Public Information, New York, New York; and to the American Association for the United Nations, 45 East 65th Street, New York, New York 10023.
- Prepare and give reports on the work of some of the United Nation's specialized agencies.
- Discuss some of the problems currently being considered by the U. N. General Assembly or Security Council.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### VETERANS DAY

November 11

Courage is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities because it is the quality that guarantees all others.

Sir Winston Churchill

Veterans Day is an occasion for honoring United States veterans of all branches of military service. It is also a time for Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace for which these veterans sacrificed. Originally known as Armistice Day it commemorated the cease-fire which brought World War I to an end November 11, 1918. On June 1, 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill, introduced by Representative Rees of Kansas, which changed the name to Veterans Day.

The focal point of the November 11 observance has long been Arlington National Cemetery. It's 420 acres established in 1864, are located on the gently rolling Virginia Hills overlooking the Nation's Capitol across the Potomac River. This cemetery holds the remains of more than 267,000 men and women who gave their lives serving their nation in uniform or as statesmen.

The stately and majestic Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was completed on April 9, 1955. It is made of Colorado marble and is decorated with various symbolic figures. The Tomb is guarded 24 hours a day by specially selected soldiers of the U.S. Army's 1st Battalion (Reinforced), 3rd Infantry (The Old Guard), Fort Meyer, Virginia. Sergeants relieve one another during a simple but impressive guard-changing ceremony every hour on the hour.

The Unknown Soldier was selected on October 24, 1951. An unknown American soldier of World War I was exhumed from each of the American cemeteries in France. They were placed in identical caskets and assembled at Chalons sur Marne. Sergeant Edward F. Younger, U. S. Army, carrying a spray of white roses entered the room where the four unmarked flag-draped caskets were resting. After walking slowly around the caskets three times he seemed drawn to the second one where he placed the flowers. The three remaining unknown Americans were then returned to the Meuse Argonne Cemetery. The body of the Unknown Soldier was brought home on the cruiser Olympia, reaching Washington, D. C. on November 9. The body lay in state until November 11, when it was lowered into the tomb at Arlington. In 1958 two other unidentified war dead, one killed in World War II, and one in Korea, were similarly selected and interred beside the World War I soldier.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### VETERANS DAY

(continued)

On each November 11, just before 11:00 a.m., a combined honor guard, representing all branches of the military, presents arms at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a Presidential Wreath. A bugler blows "Taps" and the ceremony is concluded by a brief address in the open-air marble amphitheater. As a part of the Veterans Day National Committee's "People to People" salute to the war dead, six flaming torches, symbolic of the veterans of the free world, are given a place of honor on the rostrum. In the 1960 ceremonies Belgium presented a torch that had been lighted in Antwerp as a "symbol of the timeless effort for peace."

Nearly every community across the United States observes this day with some kind of appropriate ceremonies. Often these are sponsored by the local veterans organizations. There may be a parade in which the members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars participate. Marching units may also represent the R.O.T.C., the high school band, the Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, and other organizations, including elementary schools at times. Patriotic music and a speech by a respected local person or a visiting high ranking officer of the armed forces are often a part of the day's program.

The emphasis at these community ceremonies is one of honor to all veterans, living as well as dead, who have served our nation in uniform. People are reminded that it is the responsibility of the individual citizen to serve national interest when governmental policy and the commander-in-chief call for military vigilance or action. Attention is drawn to the fact that the chief task of service personnel is to prevent war with military preparedness, and that while the devotion of the United States to the cause of peace is uppermost there is also the determination to be ready to defend principles of American life and our security.

Congress has signified this day as "expressive of our gratitude for peace and our desire for the continuance of friendly relations with all other peoples."

### CONCEPTS

Veterans Day is a time when we honor all who have served our country in uniform.

We deplore the necessity for further sacrifice and our country expends continuous effort to bring about peace in the world.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### VETERANS DAY

(continued)

#### CONCEPTS

Each individual may find ways to contribute toward peace, welfare and security of our country.

All the branches of service work at the problems of peace-keeping in many ways besides actual combat.

By working for peace, by practicing and promoting international understanding we honor those who died that we might live in a peaceful land.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Discuss who veterans are and why we have a day to honor them. List questions raised by pupils' interests on chalkboard. Have one or more veterans visit the classroom, in uniform if possible. Have them tell what they did in service and point out the differences in the branches of service. Some of the responsibilities and privileges of their branch of service may be noted. Follow with a question and answer period, using the chalkboard questions as guidelines.
- Make a collection of poems, songs, quotations which were written during the period of wars in which our country has engaged.
- Write a theme on "What Veterans Day Means to Me."
- Do some research and composition for a reenactment of the signing of the Armistice of 1918.
- Prepare a bulletin board with the material representing the branches of the Armed Services.
- Prepare suitable assembly programs, using English and music departments as well as social studies classes.
- Economics classes may discuss costs and compensations and ways in which we recognize our obligations to veterans.
- Sing songs of the branches of service.
- Review flag etiquette.
- Use the Flander's Field poppy as a symbol in an art lesson.
- Fill some needs of veterans in local hospitals.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### VETERANS DAY

(continued)

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Read some of the writings of correspondents such as those of Ernie Pyle.
- . Find out about the ways in which the branches of service assist in some projects for civilian use, such as building dams and bridges, perfecting radar, making advancements in electronics, aviation, engineering and photography.
- . Find out about how women have served as nurses, x-ray technicians, control-tower operators and in offices.

### LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

February 12

He held his place -  
Held the long purpose like a growing tree -  
Held on through blame and faltered not at  
praise.

Edwin Markham

The first national celebration of Lincoln's birthday was held in the Capitol in Washington, February 12, 1866, less than a year following his assassination. In addition to members of both houses of Congress, President Andrew Johnson and his cabinet, the Supreme Court Justices, the diplomatic corps, army and naval officers, and many other citizens attended. On this same day the Lincoln Association which had been formed in Atlantic City, New Jersey, observed the anniversary.

In 1891 Hannibal Hamlin of Maine, who was Vice President during Lincoln's first term, urged, in an address to the Lincoln Club of New York, that the day be made a national holiday. The next year the legislature of Illinois did make the day a legal holiday. In later years other states followed that example.

The year 1909 was the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth. Elaborate celebrations were held in New York, Chicago, Boston, and Pittsburgh. The day was observed at the battlefield of Gettysburg, and in such foreign cities as London, Berlin, Paris, and Rio de Janeiro. In our own country New Orleans, Birmingham, Little Rock, Harrisburg, and several cities of Texas also commemorated the day. The great interest shown during the centennial led to the erection of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

(continued)

Although Lincoln probably had no more than a year of formal schooling, he read all the books he could obtain and educated himself so that he became successful in law and politics.

Lincoln served his country well during the Civil War. In his pursuit of justice and freedom for all he issued the famous "Emancipation Proclamation." Among his greatest traits were humility, honesty, sincerity, friendliness and his ability to study and improve himself. He believed he had been elected to execute the will of the people.

A fitting tribute to Abraham Lincoln has been the designation, through a nation-wide, inter-faith, inter-denominational effort, of the Sunday before Lincoln's Birthday as Race Relations Sunday.

### CONCEPTS

Lincoln's background from a humble pioneer home helped him to have a deep understanding of the common people of his time.

Lincoln's desire to learn led him to make personal sacrifices in order to study, improve his knowledge and skills, and to speak well in public.

Lincoln exemplified tolerance and patience in dealing with any problem.

Lincoln's attitude in victory typified his empathy and wisdom and was expressed in part in his second inaugural address in the fervent plea "to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan - to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

### ACTIVITIES

- Try to illustrate the words loyalty, integrity, and patriotism by choosing acts from Lincoln's life, or by reading his statements which might help to explain how these words become meaningful through the life of a great person.
- Read to the children or help them to read portions of Lincoln's biographies which will illuminate some of the ways in which he worked hard to educate himself.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY (Continued)

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Using some props, such as articles of clothing, present the Gettysburg address as a dramatic reading.
- . Read from Drinkwater's play "Abraham Lincoln."
- . Make a panorama depicting events of Lincoln's life.
- . Arrange an interesting center or exhibit of items in use at the time of Lincoln's life.

#### THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Delivered at the Dedication of the National Cemetery  
at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, November 19, 1863

FOURSCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO OUR FATHERS BROUGHT FORTH ON THIS CONTINENT A NEW NATION, CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY, AND DEDICATED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.

NOW WE ARE ENGAGED IN A GREAT CIVIL WAR, TESTING WHETHER THAT NATION, OR ANY NATION SO CONCEIVED AND SO DEDICATED, CAN LONG ENDURE. WE ARE MET ON A GREAT BATTLEFIELD OF THAT WAR. WE HAVE COME TO DEDICATE A PORTION OF THAT FIELD AS A FINAL RESTING-PLACE FOR THOSE WHO HERE GAVE THEIR LIVES THAT THAT NATION MIGHT LIVE. IT IS ALTOGETHER FITTING AND PROPER THAT WE SHOULD DO THIS.

BUT, IN A LARGER SENSE WE CANNOT DEDICATE - WE CANNOT CONSECRATE - WE CANNOT HALLOW - THIS GROUND. THE BRAVE MEN, LIVING AND DEAD, WHO STRUGGLED HERE, HAVE CONSECRATED IT FAR ABOVE OUR POOR POWER TO ADD OR DETRACT. THE WORLD WILL LITTLE NOTE NOR LONG REMEMBER WHAT WE SAY HERE, BUT IT CAN NEVER FORGET WHAT THEY DID HERE. IT IS FOR US, THE LIVING, RATHER, TO BE DEDICATED HERE TO THE UNFINISHED WORK WHICH THEY WHO FOUGHT HERE HAVE THUS FAR SO NOBLY ADVANCED. IT IS RATHER FOR US TO BE HERE DEDICATED TO THE GREAT TASK REMAINING BEFORE US - THAT FROM THESE HONORED DEAD WE TAKE INCREASED DEVOTION TO THAT CAUSE FOR WHICH THEY GAVE THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION; THAT WE HERE HIGHLY RESOLVE THAT THESE DEAD SHALL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN; THAT THIS NATION, UNDER GOD, SHALL HAVE A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM; AND THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE, SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts  
of his countrymen, he was second to none  
in the humble and endearing scenes of private life.  
Pious, just, humane, temperate and sincere;  
uniform, dignified and commanding, his example was  
as edifying to all around him, as were the effects  
of that example lasting.

Henry Lee

In the winter of 1778 at the Valley Forge encampment, a band of the Fourth Continental Artillery marched to General Washington's headquarters and serenaded their commander. This incident of an artillery band playing before the tent of their commander on a wintry February 22nd may have been the first "official" observance of his birthday.

When Washington died in 1799, Congress, then in session in Philadelphia, adopted a resolution recommending that his next birthday anniversary be observed throughout the nation. There followed general celebrations throughout the country, but the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia became one of the places where his birthday was consistently observed.

Washington's Birthday is a legal holiday in all of the states of the Union.

### CONCEPTS

Washington was a brilliant student and although his academic schooling was brief he was learning all his life, and he had the ability to apply his learning and good judgment to the practical affairs of living.

Washington always enjoyed his home life and surroundings, and yet he left all these three times to serve his country - as Commander in Chief of the army, as President of the Constitutional Convention and as President of the United States.

Washington brought both political experience and a keen understanding of history to bear upon the work he did in formulating early policies of our country.

Washington was not an orator, but he was honest and just and the people trusted him. He believed in the new republic and the people sensed this and it influenced them in choosing him for their first president.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

(continued)

#### ACTIVITIES

- Legends grow up around great men. What legends have been associated with Washington? Make a booklet of illustrated legends concerning Washington.
- Learn to dance a minuet.
- Sing songs popular in Washington's time.
- Read the biographies available and share portions of them aloud with the class.
- Make a study of the way in which Washington kept the confidence of his army in the bleak early days of the Revolution.
- List the accomplishments of the government during his administration.
- Learn something about the famous sculptors and painters of Washington, such as Gilbert Stuart, Charles Wilson Peale, and Jean Antonine Houdon and their work.
- Prepare an illustrated booklet of the home life of Washington, with a portion devoted to the life of Martha Custis Washington.
- Collect stamps with the picture of Washington on them and add to a display of pictures, books, and artifacts honoring Washington.

### MEMORIAL DAY

May 30

Your silent tents of green  
We deck with fragrant flowers  
Yours has the suffering been,  
The memory shall be ours.

Henry W. Longfellow

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day as a time for decorating the graves of Civil War veterans, has become a day for remembering all honored dead.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### MEMORIAL DAY (continued)

At the close of the Civil War a group of women in Columbus, Mississippi, honored both Confederate and Union soldiers by placing flowers on their graves. When, at the close of the war, this news reached the North, it helped to heal the recent wounds.

The use of flowers in paying tribute to the dead is a custom in many cultures. Such a rite for the soldier dead was observed at Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, Belle Isle, Virginia and at Columbus, Mississippi at the time of the Civil War.

Memorial Day observance is marked by parades of military units, bands, civil officials, boy scouts, camp fire groups, school children, and other local groups. Speeches and music fitting to the occasion are a part of a traditionally dignified and reverent observance.

### CONCEPTS

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance. It has been observed by civilizations of earlier times, as well as by those of today.

Memorial Day was originally set aside in our country to honor the war dead, but it has become a time of personal and family commemoration of the dead as well.

It is well to remember and appreciate the contributions of those who have lived before us.

### ACTIVITIES

- . Make a mural of the participants in the parade and tell about their reasons for being there.
- . Find out who from the local school or community are especially to be remembered on Memorial Day.
- . A visible observance for a classroom would be to put small American flags on a world map to designate the places where Memorial Day for American soldiers is held. This would include Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Holland, Luxemburg, France, Belgium, Italy, the Philippines, several South Sea Islands, and other places as well as our country. Information on this can be obtained from the Department of Defense.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### FLAG DAY June 14

Hats off!  
Along the street there comes  
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,  
A flash of color beneath the sky:  
Hats off!  
The flag is passing by.

Henry Holcomb Bennett

Flag Day was established to honor the red, white and blue banner which represents our country. As some of life's deepest meanings are projected by symbols, so in the life of a country, its flag, as a symbol, comes to a place of significance in expressing the unity of the people.

In 1775 the Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin, Benjamin Harrison, and Thomas Lynch to design a national emblem. On June 14, 1777, George Washington presented this in the form of a flag to the Continental Congress. The Congress adopted this resolution: "Resolved: That the Flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." Each of the original thirteen colonies was represented by a star and a stripe. As new states were admitted, new stripes and new stars were added. In 1818, after five new states were added, Congress passed a bill specifying that the Flag should have thirteen stripes and that for each new state a star should be added.

Flag Day was first observed in New York by a kindergarten school and then by all public schools. Before long the New York State Legislature passed a law providing for the annual observance of Flag Day. In 1893 the mayor of Philadelphia ordered the Flag displayed on all public buildings and in 1897 the governor of New York issued a similar order for the Flag to be displayed on all public buildings in the city of New York.

Today it is often said that the red stands for the courage to do what is right, the white is for the liberty that our land offers to all who come, and the blue is for constancy.

We revere our Flag, and we show this reverence on the day of its birth, and on all occasions.

### CONCEPTS

This is Flag Day, but that only means that it is a day when we are to recall the things which we should do every day of our lives. There are no days of special patriotism.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### FLAG DAY (cont.)

#### CONCEPTS

This Flag meant a great enterprise of the human spirit.

The Flag of the United States has not been created by rhetorical sentences in declarations and in bills of rights. It has been created by the experience of a great people, and nothing written upon that has not been written by their life. It is the embodiment, not of a sentiment, but of a history.

We meet to celebrate Flag Day because this Flag which we honor and under which we serve is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which we give it from generation to generation. The choice is ours. It floats in majestic silence above the hosts that execute those choices whether in peace or war. And yet, though silent, it speaks to us - speaks to us of the past, of the men and women who went before us and of the records they wrote upon it. We celebrate the day of its birth; and from its birth until now it has witnessed a great history, has floated on high the symbol of great events, of a great plan of life worked out by a great people.

Woodrow Wilson

#### ACTIVITIES

- Civic pride and community interest may be further developed through organizations such as The American Legion, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Groups, Explorers, Bluebirds, and others, in displaying and showing respect to the Flag, June 14.
- Patriotic songs may be sung at civic functions on this day.
- Have a well informed speaker address a community group and explain the meaning of Flag Day.
- Encourage all citizens to display the Flag on June 14.
- Listen to and view television programs that concern Flag Day observances on local, state, and national levels.
- Participate in community parades on Flag Day.
- Observe the raising and lowering of the Flag during community activities.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

July 4

Sail on, O Union, Strong and Great!  
Humanity with all its fear,  
With all the hopes of future years,  
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Independence Day, July 4th commemorates the birthday of our nation.

For a century and a half, since the first colonists settled on American shores, these pioneer people were subjects of the British Crown. As such they were ruled, taxed, and presumably, protected by England. There was little thought of separate independence until the British Parliament started exacting exorbitant taxes in 1764. The Sugar Act, probably the first of the severe revenue measures of Parliament to antagonize the Colonies was enacted in 1764.

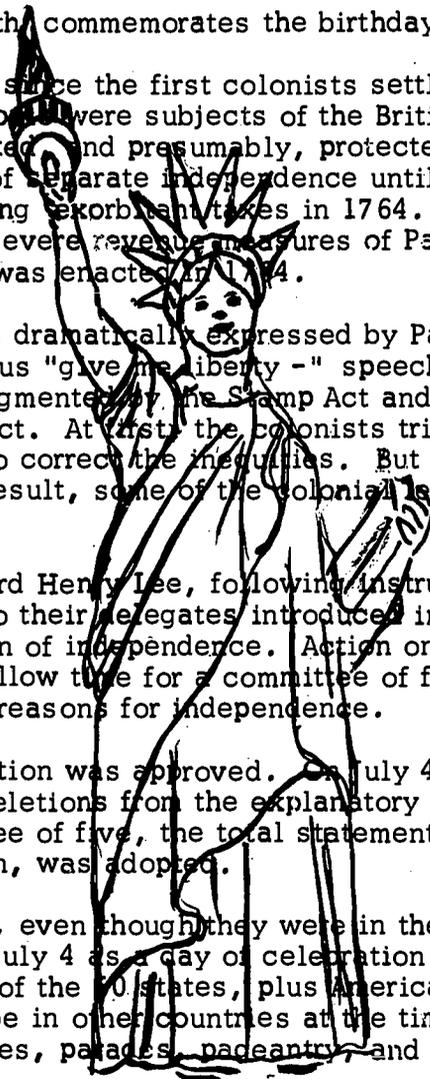
A growing resentment was dramatically expressed by Patrick Henry as early as 1765 in his famous "give me liberty -" speech. These rebellious feelings were augmented by the Stamp Act and the implementation of the Quartering Act. At first the colonists tried to get the King and the Parliament to correct the inequities. But when harsher dictatorial rule was the result, some of the colonial leaders began to talk of independence.

On June 7th, 1776, Richard Henry Lee, following instructions given by the Virginia Convention to their delegates introduced into the Continental Congress a declaration of independence. Action on it was deferred until July 1, in order to allow time for a committee of five to prepare a statement explaining the reasons for independence.

On July 2, the Lee resolution was approved. On July 4, after much debate and some slight deletions from the explanatory statements as presented by the committee of five, the total statement of declaration, including Lee's resolution, was adopted.

The very next year, 1777, even though they were in the midst of war, Philadelphians observed July 4 as a day of celebration. Today practically every hamlet in all of the 50 states, plus American soldiers and civilians who happen to be in other countries at the time, observe the day with prayers, speeches, parades, pageantry, and fireworks.

The day symbolizes the divine right of each man to have a voice in his own government.



## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### INDEPENDENCE DAY (continued)

The philosophy of freedom in large measure is responsible for the greatest social upheavals and political experiments in the history of all civilization, brought about by men seeking, to establish in government, recognition of the divine and dignified status of free men. Witness our unique heritage of freedom which lies buried deep in the words and meaning of the Magna Charta signed at Runnymede, where men, during the thirteenth century, wrested basic freedoms from kings; also, in the political and religious strife and unrest through the Renaissance and the Reformation, when men sought relief from the tyrannical yokes of church and state. Then followed the greatest political experiment of all history when there was created a nation, whose foundation and cornerstone - indeed its very heart and soul - rested upon the living philosophy promulgated into and evidenced by a Declaration of Independence, a Constitution and a Bill of Rights, and a government of law, founded thereon, consisting solely of a grant of powers by free men, and the existence of which depended solely upon the will and consent of the governed.

Justice E. B. Smith  
Idaho Supreme Court

### CONCEPTS

Independence Day commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Independence is not easily gained nor easily maintained.

Many people have made tremendous sacrifices to achieve independence for the United States.

Freedom implies responsibility. Unless one exercises responsible use of freedom it is ultimately lost.

We are social beings as well as individuals; the rights of individual freedom must be counterbalanced by social responsibility.

### ACTIVITIES

- Decorate cup cakes like drums.
- Prepare a bulletin board which will visually call the attention of the class to the sacrifices made by Americans since 1776 to maintain our independence.
- Research the various ways Independence Day has been celebrated during the various periods of our history since 1776. Present this information to the class in interesting and informative ways, such as dioramas, paintings, news articles.

## PATRIOTIC DAYS TO OBSERVE

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

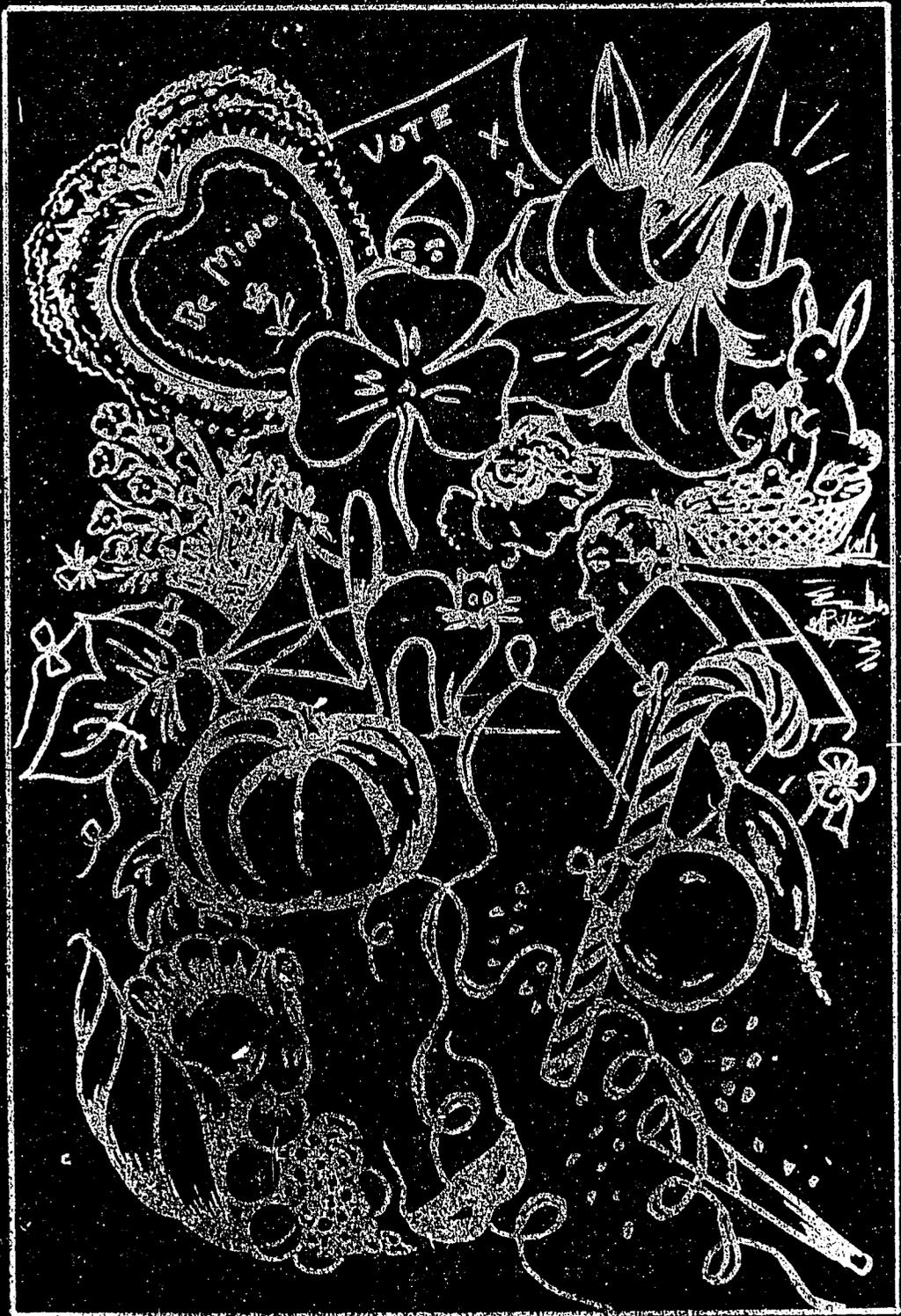
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#### ACTIVITIES

- Check the personal background of each of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Give the class a thumbnail sketch of the men involved.
- Make a chronological chart showing the gradual move toward independence.
- Read the document aloud in class. Examine it carefully and break it down into its component parts: (1) the preface, a statement of philosophic principles, (2) the grievances, and (3) the declaration of independence.
- Travel to historic spots by means of slides brought from home or secured commercially.
- Tape choral readings of patriotic selections and provide them for circulation through the library.
- Make a collection of pictures showing the early history of our country.
- Make a list of books in the school library which are based on the early history of our country.
- Write an essay "What America Means to Me."
- After listening to recordings of poems and patriotic readings by famous Americans, make some similar tapes of your own concerning the Declaration of Independence.

Give to us clear vision that we may  
know where to stand and what to  
stand for. Because unless we stand  
for something, we shall fall for  
anything.

Peter Marshall



SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

LABOR DAY

COLUMBUS DAY

HALLOWEEN

GENERAL ELECTION DAY

THANKSGIVING DAY

CHRISTMAS

NEW YEAR'S DAY

VALENTINE'S DAY

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

ARBOR DAY

EASTER

MOTHER'S DAY

FATHER'S DAY

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### LABOR DAY September

"This is my work; my blessing, not my doom;  
Of all who live, I am the one by whom  
This work can best be done in the right way."

Henry van Dyke

Labor Day had its beginnings at a time in American life when oppressive working conditions were common, and when men of heroic devotion became the leaders in organizing workers to seek improvement in their lot. It is observed as a legal holiday on the first Monday in September throughout the United States, Porto Rico and Canada. It marks the end of summer and the beginning of autumn. In providing nearly everybody an extended weekend holiday, the dignity and the necessity of labor is highlighted. All who labor - whether in factory, field, office or store - are reminded that there is virtue in honest work.

### CONCEPTS

Labor Day is a national holiday set aside to honor and give rest to all the working men and women of America.

Work can be more than a job; it can be a satisfaction in itself.

Good work habits acquired at school influence future plans and success of each individual.

We should all have a wholesome respect for work and the laborer; for every currently needed job is necessary and essential for the efficient progress of complex society.

The interdependence of all workers, from the unskilled laborer to the top executive, is such that no particular individual can ever completely alienate himself from the joint interest of capital and labor - they succeed or fail together.

### ACTIVITIES

- Plan and construct with the pupils a bulletin board showing many of the types of work which they know about. Establish separate sections for jobs connected with the home, operating the community's business, distributing goods, offering services, providing entertainment, etc.
- Find out about the kinds of training necessary for the jobs studied.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### LABOR DAY (cont)

#### ACTIVITIES

- Learn about the division of labor by planning the work to be done in the care of the classroom, the home, or some other simple institution.
- Invite a custodian, cafeteria worker, nurse, teacher, or some other member of the staff or faculty to explain the relationship of his particular job to community life in general.
- Prepare a bulletin board of occupational alternatives facing the class. Project possible new jobs; list qualifications and educational requirements for jobs shown; study charts of possible earnings from different types of jobs; consider the leisure or responsibilities of various jobs; encourage each student to make a selection of three possible work careers for himself and explain these choices.

### COLUMBUS DAY October 12

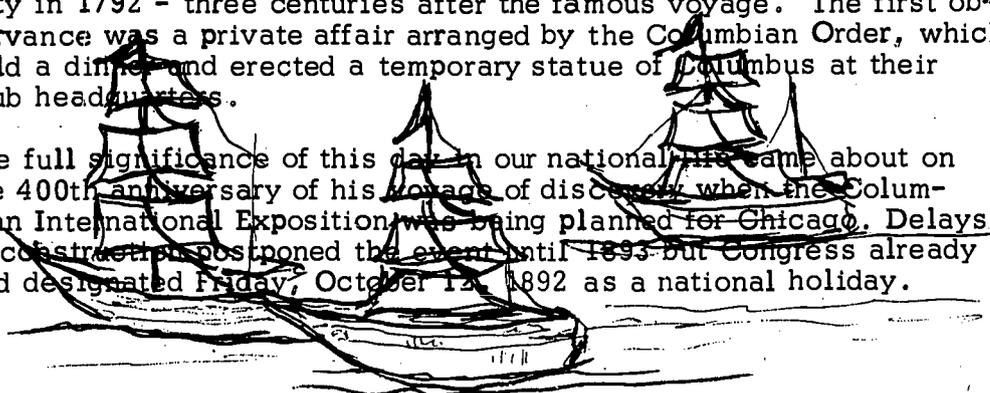
He gained a world; he gave the world  
Its grandest lesson, "On! sail on!"

Joaquin Miller

The educated men in Columbus' day - with few exceptions - agreed that the world was round. It remained for Christopher Columbus, the son of a Genoa weaver, to venture out into the unknown and uncharted Atlantic Ocean to extend the knowledge of world geography in 1492. He sailed west seeking a shorter route to Cathay (India), and to the end of his days believed he had found such a route.

Columbus Day was first observed in the United States in New York City in 1792 - three centuries after the famous voyage. The first observance was a private affair arranged by the Columbian Order, which held a dinner and erected a temporary statue of Columbus at their club headquarters.

The full significance of this day in our national life came about on the 400th anniversary of his voyage of discovery when the Columbian International Exposition was being planned for Chicago. Delays in construction postponed the event until 1893 but Congress already had designated Friday, October 12, 1892 as a national holiday.



## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### COLUMBUS DAY

(cont.)

The celebrations in our own country have grown in variety and in prestige. Cities from the east coast to the west have presented spectacular programs over the years. In 1954 a bronze statue of Columbus, a gift from the city of Genoa, Italy, was dedicated in Columbus, Ohio. On Columbus Day in 1960 Stanford University dedicated an overseas campus in Florence, Italy. The day has become one in which the people of the Western Hemisphere join hands in remembering Christopher Columbus. The remembrance of Columbus is also attested to by the continued use of his name for streets, cities, and a country.

#### CONCEPTS

Columbus' discovery of America, more than any other single act of exploration, changed the face of the known world.

America's store of gold made Spain one of the world's great empires.

Although Spain became rich as a result of Columbus' discovery, the explorer died without profiting or realizing that he had discovered a new hemisphere, but thought he had found a better route to India.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Read orally from some of the books about Columbus, or assist some of the pupils to prepare an oral presentation.
- Study pictures available and tell some of the events of Columbus' life.
- Use the sketches of the ships for a writing lesson.
- Dispel these myths through research: Numerous places claim to be the birthplace of Columbus; the learned men of Salamanca rejected Columbus' scheme because they did not agree with his theories about the shape of the earth; Columbus sailed in old leaky "tubs"; his crews were made up of released murderers and thieves; Columbus was an ignorant day-dreaming landsman.
- Describe to the class Columbus' feat of dead reckoning performed with the crude instruments of his time.
- Discuss the likelihood of Columbus were he living today wanting to become a space navigator.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### COLUMBUS DAY (cont.)

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Make a study of the currents and winds with which Columbus dealt as to their influence upon the rate of travel of his fleet.
- . Construct simple compasses.
- . Have a spice box for examining various kinds of spices.
- . Participate in a choral reading.
- . Compare a map of the world of Columbus' time to a modern map.

### HALLOWEEN October 31

Mystic night of splendor  
Beneath a golden moon,  
With many gay surprises  
That disappear too soon.

La Verne P. Larson

Once an event surrounded by superstition and dedicated to mischief, today Hallowe'en is a rollicking play time. In modern American life it has come full circle. While Hallowe'en still retains some of the traditions and trappings of the Middle Ages, this is only symbolism, not the serious concern for ghosts and witches that once was common place.

Hallowe'en stems from a mixture of early religious events. Originally it was called All Hallow's Eve, because it fell on October 31, the eve of All Saints Day. The name later was shortened to Hallowe'en.

As is often the case with our holidays, Hallowe'en embodies the taking over of a pagan festival and its modification by Christianity. Both the Romans and the ancient Britons celebrated an autumn holiday at this date, and many of the customs of Hallowe'en are based on beliefs and fears of past times.

Masquerading probably came from the merrymakers in English parades and the guizarts in Scotland, who dressed in queer costumes and went about chanting rhymes. Bobbing for apples and other Hallowe'en games were played as long ago as the time of Queen Elizabeth, when Hallowe'en saw shops close for parties and parades.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### HALLOWEEN (cont.)

The origin of Trick-or-Treat has a precedent in the processions of Muck Olla in Ireland. Young men went from house to house receiving contributions of produce from farmers to help secure prosperity in the new year ahead.

#### CONCEPTS

Realization that ancient rituals and customs have left their mark on modern festivities, adding interesting contrast and color to this holiday which has changed its meaning with the passage of centuries.

Once a serious harvest and religious festival clothed in superstition, Hallowe'en has become a time for harmless fun and merrymaking.

Children should be shown that there is difference between harmless fun and harmful pranks.

One opportunity that is offered American children at this time is to participate in the collection of funds (or goods) to aid less-fortunate children in other lands.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Fasten two small foil pie tins together with needle and yarn and just before the last few stitches put a little gravel inside for a noisemaker.
- Use geometric shaped scraps of paper to create Hallowe'en figures.
- Upper grades may supervise UNICEF "trick or treat" efforts for their own and for primary grades.
- Make spiced cider for the party. Put one gallon of apple cider in a large granite pan. Add 1 cup brown sugar, 12 whole cloves, 13 whole allspice and four or five sticks of cinnamon. Heat very slowly, remove and serve steaming hot.
- Make masks for Hallowe'en parties.
- Discuss the activity known as "trick or treat".
- Make decorations for "shut-ins" and distribute.
- Provide for costume parades.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### GENERAL ELECTION DAY

November

The very essence of a free government consists in considering public offices as public trusts, bestowed for the good of the country, and not for the benefit of an individual or party.

John C. Calhoun

Since 1845 the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of the years divisible by four has been General Election Day in the United States. At this time American citizens vote for candidates for President and Vice President of the United States and for members of the United States Congress. Most of the states use this same date for local elections as well.

In American voting procedure the primary election is composed of separate nominating contests within individual parties. Candidates for each office thus are chosen by members of their own party to oppose each other in the general election, which is the contest between parties for final election. A few states hold nominating conventions rather than primary elections.

Special elections for school trustees, school and city bond issues, and city councilmen usually are held at other times.

### CONCEPTS

Voting in elections is a responsibility as well as a privilege in a representative democracy.

Elections constitute a delegation of power by the people to their government, with all powers not specifically granted being reserved or retained by the people themselves.

Citizens need a knowledge of the procedure of nominating and electing public officials.

An individual's obligations to his government do not end at the ballot box.

### ACTIVITIES

- Conduct a mock election in the school on the same basis as it is done in the community in which the pupils live. If the community does use a voting machine, try to examine and experiment with one. (appropriate activities for primary grades)
- Debate: Our American System - are elections truly democratic?

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### THANKSGIVING DAY

November

A candle, a kettle, a cup and a chair,  
A cushion, a kitten with calico hair,  
A clock, and a curtain, a churn with its cover,  
A comb, and fat cookies with currants all over;  
A can full of kernels of golden popcorn,  
A keg of curled shavings to kindle at morn -  
With all of these comforts at hand, don't you see  
How pleasant a visit to Grandma can be?

Runa B. Ruhle

Thanksgiving is probably the most American and the least changed of the holidays we celebrate. As the name implies, it is a day for giving thanks for our blessings. Some Americans celebrate by attending special church services and for many it is largely a day of homecoming, a time for renewing family ties and strengthening feelings of kinship. Thanksgiving is also a time for sharing. The first Thanksgiving Day set a pattern for this and today few families sit down to a sumptuous dinner without first having given to those who would not have such a meal.

The first American Thanksgiving was celebrated during the second winter that the Plymouth colonists spent in New England. The first winter had held many hardships for them and forty-three of the 103 persons had died. Only five of the eighteen women and five of the children remained alive. In the spring, under the direction of Squanto, an Indian who lived with them, the Pilgrims had planted corn, having obtained the seed from a cache they found earlier. They also planted grain and peas. The sun dried up the peas, but the corn and grain promised food for the winter so that in the fall the weekly ration of one peck of meal was augmented by one peck of corn per person.

Governor Bradford, following a custom practiced in one way or another for many centuries, declared that December 13, 1621, should be set aside as a day of feasting and expressing gratitude for their harvest. Squanto was sent to invite Chief Massasoit to the feast. The chief came with ninety of his braves.

The Indians brought deer meat and helped the Pilgrims gather oysters. The Pilgrims furnished turkeys, partridges, geese and ducks from the woods. Along with this game they served clams, eels, various kinds of fish and baked goods such as Indian pudding and hoe cake. Such was the first American Thanksgiving Day.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### THANKSGIVING DAY

(continued)

A Menu Used on Thanksgiving Day 1863 Included:

	Cranberry Juice	
Roast Turkey with Dressing		Cranberry Sauce
Sweet Potatoes	Creamed Onions	Squash
Pumpkin Pie	Plum Pudding	Mince Pie
Milk		Coffee

### CONCEPTS

The early colonists worked hard to make a living and were thankful for their material and spiritual blessings.

Thanksgiving Day is the American version of celebrations marking the end of the harvest which are as traditional as agriculture itself.

A special effort is made to have any American armed forces personnel stationed anywhere in the world participate in Thanksgiving services and in the traditional menu for the day.

### ACTIVITIES

- Make tagboard animals that are usually associated with Thanksgiving, cut on a double fold so that they will stand.
- Make decorative centerpieces for the cafeteria tables. Then make Indian and Pilgrim headdresses and wear them to lunch. Serve popcorn with the reading of the book, *Pilgrim Thanksgiving*, by Wilma Pritchard Hays.
- Put up a large paper cornucopia and let the children fill it with fruit and vegetable cut-outs.
- Write stories starting with "I am thankful for."
- Write a "thank you" letter to someone, such as the author of a favorite book.
- Learn how to set the table correctly and attractively for Thanksgiving dinner.
- Find out how Indians planted, fertilized and stored corn. How did they prepare it for eating?
- Make individual pictures comparing today's cooking processes with those of early times.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### THANKSGIVING DAY (continued)

#### ACTIVITIES

- Write an article on Indian corn, its history and development to the present.
- Find out which tribes of Indians lived near the Pilgrims. What is their situation today?
- Find out which historical spots in Idaho would compare in age with Plymouth Rock.

### CHRISTMAS December 25

And all the bells on earth shall ring  
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;  
And all the bells on earth shall ring  
On Christmas day in the morning

Author Unknown

Christmas, or the Feast of the Nativity, is the annual commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The second chapter of the book of Luke in the New Testament tells of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem to pay their family taxes and of the birth of the Christ Child.

Our celebration of this event has become a combination of holiday customs from all over the world. There will be reenactment of the shepherds and the wise men visiting the Christ child. Special music and drama will be presented. Telecasts of plays old and new and carols and songs fill the air. Decorations range from luminaries and lighted streets, to the tree on the lawn of the White House in Washington. The giving of gifts, found in many cultures for many purposes is especially evident at this time. Street caroling, religious services, family reunions, and festive Christmas meals have become part of the Christmas season.

The events of Christmas have inspired some of the world's most beautiful music, art and literature, especially those of a sacred nature.

The Christmas Tree and Other Symbols:

Many early cultures had some type of tree worship. The legend of the Christmas tree that comes from Germany is that when Winifred of England found the pagans of northern Europe worshipping at an Oak tree, he cut

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### CHRISTMAS

(cont.)

it down and pointed out a small fir tree as the holy tree of the Christ child, and thus introduced them to Christianity. The evergreen is a symbol of eternal life. The tree was used in the early German mystery plays and later in the home where it was decorated with cookies, fruit and candles. The custom spread to other European countries and was brought to this country by immigrants. Our country began the custom of lighted trees in public places. Today Christmas trees may be evergreens, or they may be made from almost any material, and often form the center of the decorations for the season.

The use of evergreens in wreaths and in other ways may have some beginnings in the use of laurel, other greens and flowers used in the processions and in the homes during the Roman Saturnalis observance. Misteltoe was believed by the British Druids to have miraculous powers. The Romans held it as a symbol of peace and declared that when enemies met under it they could discard their arms and declare a truce. Holly was also believed to be endowed with unusual powers. One legend says that Christ's crown of thorns was made of holly and from this began the custom of making Christmas wreaths.

The Poinsettia is known as the "flower of the Holy Night" in Central America. It was called to general attention by Joel Poinsett, our Ambassador to Mexico in 1828. It has several legendary origins.

The Yule log originated among the tribes of northern Europe as part of the celebration of the winter solstice. It was a widespread European custom. The log was selected on Candlemas Day and stored to dry during the summer. On Christmas eve the Yule log was dragged into the house and kindled with the unburned parts of last year's log which had been saved for that purpose.

The use of candles in celebrations may be a remnant of sun worship. Hanukkah is known as the "Feast of Lights" and at Christmas they may symbolize Christ as the "light of the world." The four Sundays of Advent may be marked with candle lighting, and candle light services are held in churches on Christmas eve.

### CONCEPTS

Christmas is the feast commemorating the birth of Jesus and is observed annually on December 25. The name is derived from the medieval "Christes Masse." Many of the customs now associated with Christmas were not originally Christmas customs but rather pre-Christian customs taken up by the Christian church. Saturnalia, a Roman feast celebrated in mid-December, provided the model for many of the merry-making customs of

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### CHRISTMAS (cont.)

#### CONCEPTS

Christmas. Customs and traditions in the United States were gradually blended from the many faiths and nationalities of its peoples and from common usage, a new tradition has developed. The exchanging of Christmas cards, as a remembrance, apparently developed circa the middle of the 19th century.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Write Christmas letters to those in hospitals or homes, or small children can send drawings.
- Suggest a composite poem using such beginnings as "Christmas smells like, Christmas feels like, Christmas sounds like, Christmas tastes like, Christmas looks like," or other themes.
- Present to the class the meanings of the various Christmas symbols and something about their origin.
- Invite a foreign born person or a person who has traveled to help with the study of Christmas in other lands.
- Decorate a tree with cards from each homeroom and send it to a Veterans hospital.
- Homerooms can cooperate by giving a Christmas party for children of "less chance" or deprived areas.
- Repair toys for needy children.
- Make tray decorations for hospitals.
- Make books for small children by cutting scraps of smooth cotton material into page size with pinking shears and stitching together. Paste in pictures which children will enjoy. Hospitals can burn these when soiled.
- Learn Christmas carols in other languages.
- Design original Christmas seals and paper.
- Study some of the world's great Christmas art.
- Make a book of Christmas recipes to give.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

January 1

#### FOUR THINGS

Four things a man must learn to do  
If he would make his record true;  
To think without confusion clearly;  
To love his fellowmen sincerely;  
To act from honest motives purely;  
To trust in God and Heaven securely.

Henry van Dyke

New Year's Day is the oldest and most generally celebrated holiday. Even primitive people have some way of marking the new year and people of all nations observe the day within their own traditions.

As far back as 3000 B.C. the Babylonian New Year festival was celebrated at the time of the spring equinox. The ancient Egyptians used the overflowing of the Nile and later the autumnal equinox as the time of the New Year. The time of the winter solstice was used in some European countries. The root idea seems to have been the revival of the sun's strength.

In 46 B.C. Julius Caesar reformed an erratic lunar calendar and moved New Year's Day to January 1. This calendar however, had discrepancies which were altered when Pope Gregory introduced a new calendar in 1582.

In the early years of our country it was the practice of some people to hold "open house" on New Year's Day and to serve refreshments during the day to all who called and to serve a supper in the evening. While this is still done, it is also common for people to go out to some public celebration of New Year's Eve where there is much gaiety, music and noise. Equally common is the practice of going to church to attend Watch Night services. These begin at eleven o'clock, often conducted by candlelight. There will be music and a special meditation accenting the significance of the occasion. Then the church bells "ring out the old and ring in the new" at twelve o'clock.

There are two famous parades on New Year's Day. The colorful Mummers' Parade is held in Philadelphia, and the Tournament of Roses in Pasadena, California. Football games are played in stadiums throughout the country during the day.

Many people plan how they may have a successful new year and make a list of resolutions to guide them.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### NEW YEAR'S DAY (cont.)

#### CONCEPTS

New Year's Day has a longer history of observance than other holidays. The observances of New Year's Day have been largely based upon the return of conditions which maintain material life such as the planting season or the harvest.

Some groups use New Years as a time for renewal of spiritual life.

In some countries New Years is a time for gift giving while Christmas is retained for religious services.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Count the months and note their division into weeks.
- Note other divisions of time such as day, night, hours, minutes, and seconds.
- Name the seasons, and act out the drama of the earth in the solar system.
- Introduce a globe with the tilted axis.
- Have pupils make new resolutions for classroom living.
- Introduce or review the reasons for the spring and fall equinox and the summer and winter solstice.
- Make a local "who's who" for the past year.
- Make a list of the new books of interest to the class which appeared during the year.
- Review the year by naming news events and the people who were newsworthy.
- Choose the ten best articles from their news magazines of the past year.
- Find out from the new yearbooks some patents which were issued in the past year.
- Prepare papers on the astronomers of the Mayas, the Aztec calendar stone, or the sun dial of the Incas.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### VALENTINE'S DAY

February 14

The fourteenth of February is a day sacred to St. Valentine! It was a very odd notion, alluded to by Shakespeare that on this day birds began to couple; hence, perhaps, arose the custom of sending on this day letters containing professions of love and affection.

Noah Webster

The origin of Valentine's Day is obscure. One tradition is that a priest, Valentine, serving at a temple in Rome during the reign of Claudius is the person revered by this observance.

A tradition common through Europe during the Middle Ages was that the birds began to mate on February 14. Some birds, the pigeon and dove for instance, mate for life, and so were used as symbols of fidelity.

Gradually Valentine's Day became a time for exchanging messages between sweethearts. Many references have been made to it in poems and plays through the centuries.

Today children and adults make or purchase Valentines. For many years they were lacy and sentimental. There are some like this today. The majority of them, however, are friendly messages, or tender remembrances to loved ones.

### CONCEPTS

Valentine's Day affords an opportunity to extend friendly greetings or deeper appreciations to people we care for or especially wish to greet on this day.

### ACTIVITIES

- Plan and make the decorations for the classroom.
- Plan a Post Office Unit at the time of Valentine's Day. Utilize the learnings concerning addressing letters for sending Valentines.
- Construct mail boxes for the rooms in the several primary grades and have a central post office and delivery room.
- Make individual mail containers for each child. These may be decorated paper sacks, construction paper folded in a heart shape, or shoe boxes with tops of paper shaped to cause them to look like country mailboxes.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### VALENTINE'S DAY (cont.)

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Build a valentine mobile. Encourage the children to cut and decorate hearts and other valentine symbols and balance them on red and white ribbons.
- . Think of some older persons who could be remembered with valentines.
- . Write verses and try setting them to music.
- . Decorate cookies for a party.
- . Write and recite original Valentine jingles.

Red paper, white paper, crayons and glue.  
We're making Valentines, and one is for You!



### SAINT PATRICK'S DAY March 17

Faith, I Wish I Were A Leprechaun

Faith, I wish I were a leprechaun  
Beneath a Hawthorn tree,  
A-cobblin' of wee, magic boots,  
A-eatin' luscious, lovely fruits;  
Oh, fiddle-dum, oh, fiddle-dee,  
I wish I were a leprechaun  
Beneath a Hawthorn tree!

Margaret Ritter

Saint Patrick's Day is usually celebrated on March 17 in honor of the patron saint of Ireland. Legends are many that have developed around and about St. Patrick. A favorite one tells the way that he used the shamrock to illustrate the ideas of the Trinity.

Since the shamrock is the national flower of Ireland (Erie), all loyal sons of Erie still wear a shamrock in their lapels on St. Patrick's Day. According to legend, St. Patrick planted the three-leaved plant of blue-green color which represents with the thistle and the rose, the national flowers of Ireland. The three appear on the British coat of arms because they are the national flowers of Scotland and England, also. Some authorities indicate that the wood sorrel is the true shamrock. Its leaves are very much like those of the white clover.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

(Cont.)

St. Patrick's death is recorded on March 17, circa 461. His day has been observed in America since colonial days. Observance of the day since 1845 has become a nation-wide tradition. The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick was organized in Philadelphia. In New York, Irishmen of the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian faiths organized another chapter of the society. It is celebrated in homes, churches, schools, and places of entertainment. There is a large "Irish" parade each year that takes place on Fifth Avenue, March 17th. Each year, arrangements for New York's St. Patrick's Day Parade begins immediately after the New Year. The organization committee solicits the help of business men, churches, and government officials and employees on a city wide basis in order to make the day a successful one for the "Irish". Many merchants provide special wearing apparel, shamrocks, flowers, and greeting cards for the occasion. Places other than New York, hold parades, also.

### CONCEPTS

St. Patrick's Day provides an opportunity for the "Irish" to pay homage to their patron saint. People of "Irish" descent celebrate March 17 in many ways though tradition usually dictates that the shamrock, potato and blarney stone be symbolically used.

### ACTIVITIES

- . Make decorations using St. Patrick themes for classroom display.
- . Write a short resume of the life of St. Patrick.
- . Discuss the traditions that the "Irish" brought to America.
- . Arrange for an interview either simulated or actual of a person from Ireland.
- . Have several children dress in native costume on St. Patrick's Day.
- . Decorate cookies for an "Irish" party.
- . Listen to music of Ireland and have students dance the Irish Jig and other dances.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### ARBOR DAY

What does he plant who plants a tree?  
He plants the friend of sun and sky.

A nation's growth from sea to sea  
Stirs in his heart who plants a tree.

Henry Cuyler Bunner

The Friday following February 1 or the Friday following April 1

Arbor Day provides an opportunity for planting trees or shrubs, helping to make the earth a more wholesome and beautiful place in which to live. It was first formally observed in Nebraska. J. Sterling Morton had grown up in Michigan where there were beautiful forests. In 1854, after college he began working in the newspaper business in Detroit. The next year he came to work on a newspaper in the newly created Nebraska territory.

He bought 160 acres of land at twenty-five cents an acre near Fort Kearney. There were some cottonwoods and scrub oaks, but he and his wife missed the trees to which they were accustomed. Although Morton was busy in his business and in public life, both local and national, he imported many trees, finding those that would survive in the dry climate with its hot winds. He taught the great values of tree planting, not only for their beauty but for windbreaks and for conserving soil moisture.

On the first Arbor Day, April 10, 1872, more than a million trees were planted. The Nebraska date was later changed to April 22, Morton's birthday. A later home of the Morton family at Nebraska City is now a state park, called Arbor Lodge. On the grounds which overlook the Missouri River, trees have been planted representing every state in the union.

When Theodore Roosevelt was president, he made the conservation of our natural resources one of his principal aims and added over 125,000,000 acres to our national forests. Gifford Pinchot, at one time governor of Pennsylvania, and an enthusiastic pioneer in the work of preserving the forests of the nation, served as chief of the United States Forest Service under Roosevelt and carried out the program of planned conservation of our forests.

The importance of forestry and the reforestation of waste lands was impressed upon the people through the schools and the press, and gradually Arbor Day came to be observed in all of the states. In some states the date is fixed by law and in others by proclamation.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### ARBOR DAY (cont.)

Arbor Day is also observed in Canada, Great Britain, Africa and Japan. In ancient times, the Aztec Indians and more recently the people of Palestine planted a tree for each child. Children in Israel now plant trees on the festival of the New Year.

#### CONCEPTS

Arbor Day is observed by planting, protecting and preserving trees and shrubs. Trees are used for construction, windbreaks, beautification, shade, bird sanctuaries, and for conservation of other natural resources.

The new things people learn about trees and their uses influence changes in homes, neighborhoods, industry and ways of making a living.

Governmental agencies, such as forest services, were developed by man to promote his welfare. They are paid for through taxes, gifts, and fees.

Property in National Forests is leased to private citizens, usually for a nominal fee.

There are state problems in providing enough forest areas for recreation for the increasing population, a problem of limited resources and increasing needs, or scarcity rather than abundance.

#### ACTIVITIES

- . What laws are there against littering Idaho forests?
- . What kinds of trees grow best in our local area?
- . Plan carefully the questions to ask an expert from the Forest Service.
- . Work with proper authorities to increase community participation in Arbor Day activities. Plan procedures carefully.
- . Share with others the results of research concerning the work of John Muir and others interested in trees.
- . Study how tree seeds are distributed.
- . How and why do leaves change color?
- . Locate the state and national parks in Idaho.
- . Make carbon paper impressions of leaves by laying leaf on carbon paper vein side down. Cover, press with warm iron. Lay blackened leaf on paper, cover, press.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### ARBOR DAY (cont.)

#### ACTIVITIES

- Use a large branch of a holiday tree in the classroom, hanging on it the leaves for children's birthdays and the holidays, changing monthly.
- Make end papers or other decorations with leaf prints made by pressing a leaf on a stamp pad, vein side down. Place on paper, cover with clean newspaper, rub.
- Preserve leaves by soaking the bruised stems in one part glycerin and two parts water or by bathing the leaves in the solution. Twist on wire stems wrapped with crepe paper.
- Create slogans for tree preservation, correlating with conservation unit.
- Construct a class poster showing stages of growth of trees, structure of trees and leaves, shapes and kinds of trees.
- Display kinds of tree leaves and wood, giving uses of wood and products of trees other than wood.
- Study or memorize some of the songs and poems about trees and write others; or write floor talks or plays. Use wooden spoons for making puppets.
- Learn to identify Idaho's trees through study trips, locally or to a national forest.
- Provide research materials on the Idaho wood and paper industries.
- Listen to the story of Johnny Appleseed.
- Visit construction work in process, find out what uses of wood are being made.
- Make an overlay transparency, showing the parts of a tree.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### EASTER

The greatest Christian Feast by far  
- Since Christmas only has a star -  
Is Easter with its sun, without  
Which Christmas would be dark as Doubt.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ring the bells for Easter  
Ring them full and deep!  
It's Easter! Life's awakening  
After winter's sleep!

Olive Beaupre' Miller

The Christian Bible tells us that at the time of the Jewish Passover celebration in the year roughly estimated as 31 A.D., Jesus Christ, a Jew, went to Jerusalem to participate in the celebration.

Because Easter has been celebrated for so many years and by people living in so many countries with differing cultures, numerous kinds of religious ceremonies have developed into traditional customs. Easter morning sunrise services observe the "early in the morning" discovery of the empty tomb. In many communities around the world Handel's Messiah is sung by community or local church choirs. Dramatic presentations of the events of Passion Week are reenacted. Easter lilies as a symbol of rebirth are elaborately used.

In our country Easter coincides with the time of year when the earth itself takes on aspects of renewal. Therefore it is appropriate that many classrooms decorate with pastel colors, plant flowers indoors and out, bring in tree cuttings to force buds, study birds which return in the spring, and in general make a gay spirit in preparation for the Easter season. The public dresses up in many ways with freshening the home and by refurbishing the wardrobe. Crowds of people attend church during Passion Week and on Easter Sunday.

Among the many legends concerning the Easter season is the one about the dogwood. At the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the oak and other forest trees. So firm and strong was the tree that it was chosen for the timber of the cross. To be used for such a cruel purpose distressed the tree, and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this, and said to it that the dogwood should never again grow large enough to be used as a cross. Its branches are slender and twisted and its blossoms are in the form of a cross, two long and two short petals. In the center of the outer edge of each petal there are rust colored "nail prints" stained with red, and in the center of the flower there is a "crown of thorns."

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### EASTER (cont.)

There is a legend which says that when Christ arose from the dead and walked in Joseph's garden, white lilies blossomed in His steps and shed their fragrance. They are reminders that rich blessings follow in His train. They represent everlasting life and symbolize divine goodness and grace.

The passion flower is so called because of its resemblance to the instruments of the Crucifixion. The center is shaped like a cross and the delicate fringe around the outside of the blossom looks like the crown of thorns.

A story of the Crucifixion tells that at the hour when Christ was being nailed to the Cross all plants bowed their heads in grief - all except the Aspen, which remarked, "Why should we tremble? We are pure and have never sinned." But as the tree spoke, a cold wind blew its leaves and they trembled, and always will according to the legend.

### CONCEPTS

Easter is a day of celebration of the resurrection experience of Christ. There are many ways by which various groups of Christians celebrate Easter. Easter customs have developed out of cultural and traditional practices. Easter is a day of rejoicing for Christians throughout the world. The Easter season signifies new life and is a time for renewal in many of the activities of planting or planning for beauty in life.

### ACTIVITIES

- Explore the background of Easter and of prevalent Easter customs.
- Make window transparencies of Easter or spring scenes.
- Observe the changes in nature in the school neighborhood.
- Plant seeds or start cuttings for the classroom or to take home.
- Invite the music teacher to interpret some of the Easter music which the students could listen to by means of records, tapes, or radio programs.
- Invite the art teacher or some students from the art classes to interpret old and new Easter art.
- Make an Easter tree, using a manzanita or other branch and half shells of eggs.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### MOTHER'S DAY

Sure I love the dear silver that shines in your hair,  
And the brow that's all furrowed, and wrinkled with care,  
I kiss the dear fingers, so toil-worn for me,  
Oh, God bless you and keep you, Mother Machree.

Rita Johnson Young

Mother's Day as we know it today in the United States, is a relatively young holiday. Julia Ward Howe made the first known suggestion for a "Mother's Day" in the United States in 1872. She suggested that people observe Mother's Day on June 2 as a day dedicated to peace. For several years she held an annual Mother's Day meeting in Boston. Mary Lowles Sasseen, a Kentucky school teacher, started conducting Mother's Day celebrations in 1887. Frank E. Hering of South Bend, Indiana, launched a campaign for Mother's Day in 1904. However, most of the honor for originating a special day to pay tribute to mothers belongs to Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia. With the death of her own mother in 1906, came her desire to pay tribute to the memory of all mothers. On the first anniversary of her mother's death, Anna arranged a special service in her own church. A year later all of Philadelphia observed a day to honor mothers. In 1913, Pennsylvania declared "Mother's Day" a state holiday. Miss Jarvis then became a missionary of her idea.

On May 8, 1914, Mother's Day finally received national recognition when President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution in Congress declaring that the second Sunday in May should be observed as Mother's Day. The following year the President was authorized to proclaim Mother's Day as an annual national observance.

### CONCEPTS

- Mothers lend a helping hand and a listening ear when there are problems.
- Many mothers work in industry and business.
- To make mothers' work easier boys and girls should help their mothers.
- Mother's Day has been observed unofficially for many centuries.

### ACTIVITIES

- Discuss the role of the mother in the family unit.
- Create a mural showing the activities that a mother carries on in the home.
- Discuss the modern role of the mother in the community today.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### MOTHER'S DAY (cont.)

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Think of ways to make mother's job easier.
- . Have a mother come to class and discuss her work in the home.
- . Develop a unit on family recreation at the time of Mother's Day and include the summer vacation. Stress satisfactions achieved through family associations, and ways to ease the load of the mother.
- . Find out something about the mothers of famous men and women of history.

### FATHER'S DAY

The graduation class at Yale University voted on this question: "What man in the world do you most admire?" And a majority answered "My father."

William Lyon Phelps

Although several individuals in widely separated communities at varying times "initiated" the idea of designating a day in which to honor our fathers, credit for the day is usually given to Mrs. John Bruce of Spokane, Washington. In 1909, the idea occurred to her as a tribute to her father who had reared his family after her mother's death. The Spokane Ministerial Association approved the third Sunday in June as Father's Day, and it was first observed there in 1910. The custom became popular throughout the United States and Canada. In 1934 it became a national observance, sponsored annually by a national Father's Day committee.

The purpose of the day is to recognize and enhance the honor and dignity of fatherhood, through honoring our individual fathers. As William Ellery Channing has stated, "The father and mother of an unnoticed family, who in their seclusion awaken the mind of one child to the idea and love of goodness, . . . surpass in influence a Napoleon breaking the world to his sway."

#### CONCEPTS

Most fathers have to work most of their waking hours to provide food, clothing, shelter, and education for their families.

## SPECIAL DAYS TO OBSERVE

### FATHER'S DAY (cont.)

#### CONCEPTS

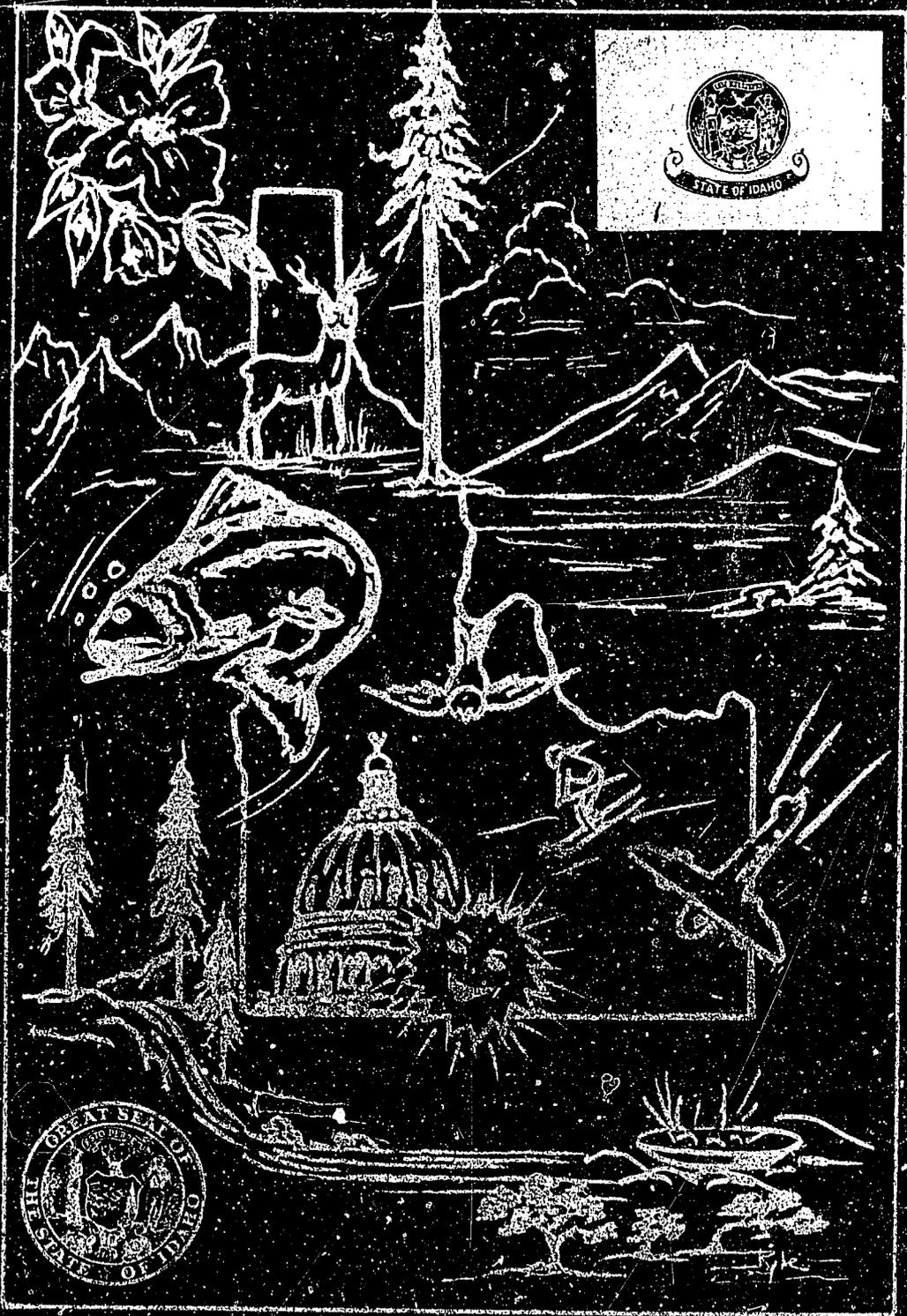
Most fathers also try to enjoy leisure time with their families.

A father, with the mother, is responsible for teaching the children right conduct and right attitudes toward life.

Many fathers participate in community activities and organizations in order to improve the community in which the family lives.

#### ACTIVITIES

- . Let the children create poems and write them in a card which can be saved until Father's Day. On the outside paste colored tops and write "DAD You're Tops".
- . Select an interesting rock, wash it in water and vinegar and if possible spray it with liquid plastic. Glue it on a wooden base which has been finished with linseed oil, matte spray, or varnish, for use as a paper-weight.
- . Make a "Gift Certificate" stating some task the child will perform for father. Enclose it in a folder, made like a billfold.
- . Write a story or anecdote about an event that happened with your father and you.
- . Visit a father at his work.



**IDAHO SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD**

**FACTS OF IDAHO**

**IDAHO INSIGNIA**

**THE STATE FLAG**

**THE GREAT SEAL**

**STATE BIRD**

**STATE TREE**

**STATE FLOWER**

**STATE GEM**

**STATE SONG**

## IDAHO: SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD

### FACTS OF IDAHO

...God gave all men all earth to love  
But since man's heart is small  
Ordains for each, one spot shall prove  
Beloved over all...

Rudyard Kipling

Capital - BOISE, "City of Trees"  
First Territorial Capital - Lewiston  
Idaho Territory created in 1863  
Statehood achieved July 3, 1890  
43rd State admitted to the Union  
13th in size among our 50 states  
Population - 1965 - 701,000  
Population density - 8.47 persons  
per square mile  
Area - 83,557 square miles:  
Water area - 788 square miles  
Land area - 82,769 square miles  
Altitude (average) - 5,000 feet:  
Altitude range from approximately  
720 ft. at Lewiston to Mt. Borah's  
12,655 ft.  
Narrowest point - 45 miles - Idaho  
Panhandle (63 miles by road)  
Widest Point - south line of State -  
approximately 320 miles - (450  
miles by road)  
Length - approximately 485 miles  
Latitude - 42° to 49° North  
Longitude - 111° to 117° West

## IDAHO: SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD

### IDAHO INSIGNIA



#### My Native Land

Breathes there the man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself has said:  
This is my own; my native land?  
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned  
As home his footsteps he hath turned; . . .

Sir Walter Scott

**FLAG:** A silken emblem with a blue field - The Great Seal in the center - "STATE OF IDAHO" embroidered thereon in gold block letters.

**GREAT SEAL:** Adopted in 1891

**MOTTO:** "ESTO PERPETUA" -  
"MAY SHE ENDURE" (Latin)

**BIRD:** Mountain Bluebird - adopted in 1931

**FLOWER:** Syringa - a branching shrub with fragrant white flowers (spring) designated as the State Flower in 1931. (some times called mock orange)

**TREE:** The White Pine - (*Pinus Monticola*) adopted, in 1935

**STONE:** Star Garnet - adopted in 1967



## IDAHO: SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD

### THE STATE FLAG

Idaho's state Flag came into official existence by an act of the legislature giving the adjutant general supervision over the construction of it. The only thing prescribed by law was that the Flag "shall be blue, charged with the name of the state in such colors and of such size and dimensions as shall be prescribed by the adjutant general."

The adjutant general thereby prescribed the following:

"A silk flag, blue field, 5 feet 6 inches fly, and 4 feet 4 inches on pike, bordered by gilt fringe 2 1/2 inches in width, with state seal of Idaho 2 1/2 inches in diameter, in colors, in the center of the blue field. The words, "State of Idaho", are embroidered in with block letters, 2 inches in height, on a red band 3 inches in width by 29 inches in length, the band being embroidered in gold and placed about 8 1/2 inches from the lower border of fringe and parallel with the same."

Such a flag has been made and now stands in the office of Idaho's Governor, at Boise. The field of this Flag is copenhagen blue. The Flag contains an embroidered reproduction of the great seal of the state.

### THE GREAT SEAL

The Great Seal of the State of Idaho was adopted by an act of the first state legislature, approved March 14, 1891. It was designed by Miss Emma Edwards who later became Mrs. J. G. Green. A full color reproduction of the painting was authorized by the 1957 legislature and this painting is maintained in the office of the Secretary of State as the "OFFICIAL COPY."

Mrs. Green has described her work as follows:

"The question of woman suffrage was being agitated somewhat and as leading men and politicians agreed that Idaho would eventually give women the right to vote, and as the processing of the mineral and the mining was the chief industry and the mining men the largest financial factor of the state at that time, I made the figure of the man the most prominent in the design, while that of the woman, signifying justice, as denoted by the scales; liberty, as denoted by the liberty cap on the head of the spear; and equality with man, as denoted by her position at his side, also signifies freedom. The pick and shovel of the miner and the ledge of rock beside which he stands, as well as the pieces of ore scattered at his feet all indicate the chief occupation of the state. The stamp mill in the distance is also typical of the mining interests of Idaho. The shield between the man and woman is emblematic of the protection they unite in giving the state. The large fir or pine tree in the foreground of the shield refers to Idaho's immense timber

## IDAHO: SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD

### THE GREAT SEAL (Cont.)

interests. The husbandman plowing on the left side of the shield, together with the sheaf of grain beneath the shield, emblematic of Idaho's agricultural resources, while the horns of plenty refer to horticulture. Idaho has a game law which protects the elk and moose. The elk's head, therefore, rises above the shield. The state flower, the wild syringa or mock orange, grows at the woman's feet, while the ripened wheat grows as high as her shoulders. The star signifies a new light in the galaxy of states. The translation of the Latin motto, "ESTO PERPETUA" is "It is Perpetual" or "It is forever." The river depicted in the shield is our mighty Snake River, a stream of great Majesty."

Note: It should be observed that the translation of the Latin Motto is not quite correct. The words express a wish or command - "May she endure forever."

### STATE BIRD

Mountain Bluebird  
Adopted by the 1931  
Legislature

The bluebird is about seven inches long, has an azure blue coat, a blue vest with white under-feathers. The mother bird wears a quiet, blue-grey dress and usually builds in hollow tree, a woodpecker's hole, or in other crevices. They also enjoy life in bird houses which can be set only a few feet above the ground. The blue bird is very neat about his home and carries all refuse some distance from his nest.

## IDAHO: SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD

### STATE TREE

White Pine  
Adopted by the 1935 Legislature

The vast stretches of rugged mountainous country north of the Salmon River comprise the home of the Idaho White Pine. The largest remaining body of White Pine timber in the world is located in Idaho.

The foliage of the tree is distinguished by the occurrence of the needles, 2" to 4" long, in clusters of 5. The bark is thin, dark gray in color and is distinctly broken into small rectangular blocks. The wood is straight grained, soft and evenly textured.

### STATE FLOWER

Syringa  
Adopted by the 1931 Legislature

The syringa is a wax-like four-petaled white flower with a profusion of yellow stamens growing in clusters. It resembles the Orange blossom very closely. The syringa is very fragrant when found in its native haunts. It is valued in landscape gardening because of its showy clusters of white, delightfully fragrant flowers.

### STATE GEM

Star Garnet  
Adopted by the 1967 Legislature

The garnet includes several types of minerals. Precious garnets are used for jewelry. The garnet is the January birthstone. The gems range in color from deep red to brown and black. Some are yellow and green. Industry uses garnets to cut and polish gem stones and also for watch jewels. The garnet is an important abrasive, and in the form of garnet cloth is used especially for wood and glass and in smoothing rubber and leather.

Senate Bill 95- An Act - By State Affairs Committee  
Establishing the Star Garnet as the official state stone, or state gem, of the State of Idaho.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho.

Section 1. The Star Garnet is hereby declared to be the official state stone, or state gem, of the State of Idaho.

IDAHO: SYMBOLS OF STATEHOOD

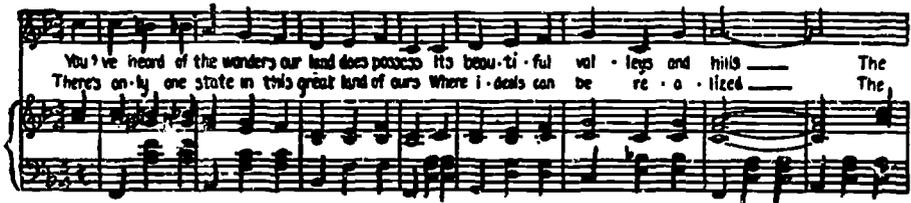
# HERE WE HAVE IDAHO

(OUR IDAHO)

Official Idaho State Song by Enactment of Twenty-first Session of Idaho Legislature.  
Music adapted from "Garden of Paradise" and used by permission of Sallie Hume-Douglas.

Words by **McKINLEY HELM**

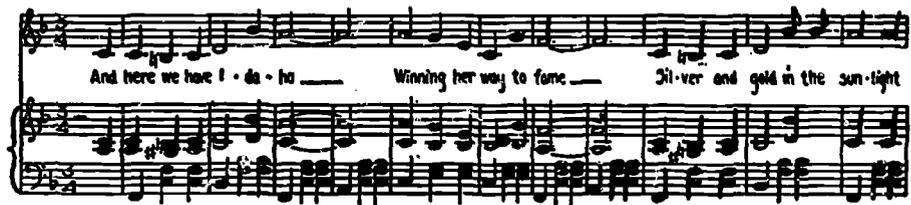
Music by **SALLIE HUME-DOUGLAS**



You've heard of the wonders our land does possess its beau-ti-ful val-leys and hills — The  
There's on-ly one state in this great land of ours Where i-deals can be re-a-lized — The



ma-jes-tic for-ests where na-ture a-bounds We love every nook and rift  
pi-o-neers made it so for you and me A-le-ga-ly we'll al-ways prize



And here we have i-da-ho — Winning her way to fame — Sil-ver and gold in the sun-light



blaze. And ro-mance lies in her name. — Sing-ing we're singing of you. Ah, proud-ly too.



All our lives thru, we'll go Sing-ing, sing-ing of you, Sing-ing of i-da-ho —

## STATE SONG

Adopted by the 1931 Legislature

Idaho Code 67-4503 (Chapter 105 - 1931 Session Laws)  
Amended by Chapter 64 of the 1955 Session Laws to give  
McKinley Helm credit for composing words and chorus to  
Here We Have Idaho - General Version. (Words as sung  
prior to adoption of song by State Legislature)