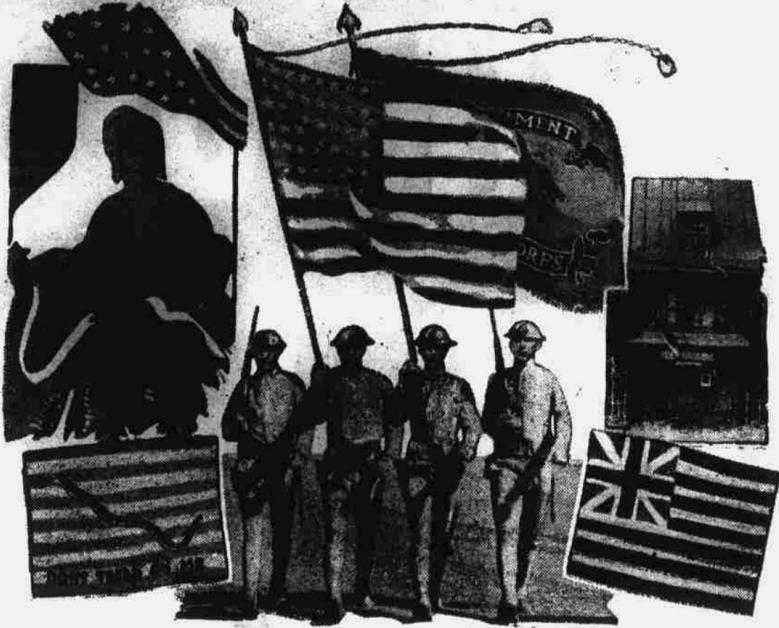


# OLD GLORY CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY SYMBOL OF NATION FOR 158 YEARS



Born in 1777, Old Glory will celebrate its 158th anniversary on June 14. Upper left: Betsy Ross, traditional maker of the Stars and Stripes, from an old painting. At right: Her home in Philadelphia which has become a national shrine. Center: U. S. Marines displaying the National Flag along with their regimental colors. North Carolina currency bore one of the first representations of the Grand Union Flag, shown below at right. Left: The Rattlesnake Flag, another forerunner of Old Glory.

Waving triumphantly through the years, the Star Spangled Banner will reach another milestone in its history with the observance of its birthday on June 14.

Romance and a certain mystery have surrounded our flag since its adoption 158 years ago, clouding its origin in a web of circumstances that historians have never been able to unravel successfully.

It is known definitely, however, that on June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress resolved: "That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white

in a blue field, representing a new constellation." Thus this date has come to be observed each year as Flag Day.

Scores of flags represented the hopes and aspirations of our forefathers. Colonial flags show beavers, rattlesnakes, pine trees and various other insignia. Some bore the words "Hope," "Liberty," or "An Appeal to Heaven." A favorite motto beneath the rattlesnake design was "Don't Tread on Me."

The first flag to show a unity of purpose on the part of the colonists consisted of thirteen stripes, similar to the design of today, except that

where the stars now appear the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew were shown. It was usually called the Grand Union Flag, and the crosses indicated definite ties with the mother country, which the colonists were as yet unwilling to sever.

When stars replaced the British insignia, Old Glory was launched on its career as our national emblem. At first there were only thirteen stars in the blue field, but as the years passed and state after state entered the Union, the number of stars multiplied until now there are forty-eight.

From time to time slight changes

in the flag have been authorized by Congress, and a design remained in vogue from 1795 until 1818. Then Congress authorized a return of the flag to its original form of thirteen stripes, one star being added thereafter for each state entering the Union.

Research has failed to prove definitely just who was responsible for the design of our National Flag. A favorite tradition points to Betsy Ross as the needlewoman whose fingers wrought with loving care the first sample of the Stars and Stripes, which was almost identical with the flag as we know it today.

We are told that late in the spring of 1776 her little shop in Philadelphia was visited by some distinguished patrons. A committee headed by George Washington called on Mrs. Ross and submitted a rough design of a new type of flag in which stars had been substituted for the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew.

The committee was of the opinion that the stars should be six-pointed. But Mrs. Ross, so the story goes, showed how a five-pointed star could be made with one snip of her scissors and her suggestion was adopted.

Unfortunately no record of this "first" flag has been preserved. But the patriotic lady told the story over and over again to her children and grandchildren, and it has been well authenticated by Betsy's descendants.

Many Americans have explained symbolism of the Stars and Stripes but few have expressed it as simply or as well as the Father of our Country who said: "We take the stars from Heaven, the red from our mother country, separating it with white stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her, and the white stripes shall go down to posterity representing Liberty."

Faith in our flag and country has been characteristic of our people from the beginning. We honor and respect the Stars and Stripes, not as a fetish, but as the beloved standard of a free nation.

Our flag has never been a symbol of military aggression. At home or abroad, afloat on the seven seas, or in some far distant outpost, it is America's guarantee of justice to those who seek protection under its folds.

## Aged Poultryman Is Leading Enthusiast

J. L. Houk, 78 year old Burke County farmer, is keenly interested in the future expansion of his poultry flock.

Despite his years, Mr. Houk is more enthusiastic about poultry than many younger farmers, reported C. F. Parrish, extension poultryman at State College, after a recent visit to the Houk farm.

The veteran farmer got interested in poultry in 1927. Seeking information, he visited leading poultrymen of Burke and adjoining counties and consulted the local farm agent. Then he started his first year with a flock of 175 Rhode Island Reds.

At the end of the year he decided that the quality of his birds must be improved, so he kept only his best hens for breeding purposes, and purchased a number of purebred males. He followed this procedure for several years.

In 1928 the eggs from his flock brought premium prices when sold to a commercial hatchery in the county. From 1928 to 1934 he kept in his flock an average of 139 birds which produced every year an average of 151.4 eggs each.

During this period he spent an average of \$2.33 a year in feeding each bird. The average return above feed costs each year amounted to \$1.65 per bird.

He started the 1934-1935 year with 277 high grade birds. During the first six months of the year his birds averaged 80 eggs each. He realized a total return of \$378.70 above feed costs during that time, or \$1.45 a bird.

Last year he built a duplex brooder house and a brick brooder, saying that this is "safest and most sensible way of brooding chicks." This spring he started 642 baby chicks and during the first six weeks he lost only 24.

## Poultry Problems Increase In Summer

Summer brings a number of problems to the poultryman. Hot weather tends to decrease egg

production and to increase the spread of disease, warns Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the State College poultry department.

He advises the marketing of early moulters and other hens not laying regularly. Cockerels not kept for breeders should be sold when they reach broiler size.

Non-layers and unneeded cockerels increase the feed bill and crowd the laying birds. Only late moulters should be used for breeding purposes.

Portable range shelters are a help in providing adequate ventilation, and should be moved to new grazing sites when necessary. See that the birds have plenty of feed and fresh water.

Do not try to reduce costs by skimping on feed, Dearstyne points out, as this will tend to keep the birds from developing large frame and building up the needed body reserve for future production.

Worms and parasites, internal and external, flourish in summer. When parasites are found, immediate treatment should be given. Poor development, leg weakness, and drawn face-parts are symptoms of worms. County Agents or other agricultural advisers may be consulted in regard to parasite control.

Vaccinating against fowl pox is an inexpensive form of insurance against this disease, Dearstyne says.

Weak or poorly developed birds are possible sources of disease and are seldom profitable. Remove them from the flock.

## DOUGHT TO



First Actress—I like to act in a play that brings tears.  
Second Actress—Won't any play you're in do that?

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