

FOR RELEASE, Sunday June 5th, 1927.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

FLAG WEEK 1927

TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA:

Human emotions have, for all time, found expression in visible and tangible symbols. Before the dawn of written history men used the crude methods at their command to carve and fashion concrete tokens of abstract things. As the race has advanced in intellect and ingenuity, so this custom has advanced, until today some of the finest expressions of inner thought are found on canvass, carved in marble, wrought in bronze and in patriotic and religious ritualism.

Tribes had their symbols, clans their insignias; and today the great nations of the earth have their flags, which are revered in peace and followed in battle, not merely because of their beauty but because of what they represent.

As the planets differ in glory, according to the learned Saint Paul, so flags differ in beauty. Some are adorned with purely material things, while others symbolize the higher emotions. Of all these, our own "Old Glory" is, it seems to me, the climax. Its field represents the canopy of Heaven, bedecked with stars of God's own creation, and can but remind the patriotic American that men and women of our native land have fixed their faith on higher things. Its red bars represent the blood that has been shed that we might have and perpetuate liberty, and the white that parity of personal and national life which is essential if we are to maintain our own respect and the respect of sister nations. In brief, our ensign is simple. It is not complicated but tells its own story.

For some years it has been the custom of our people to observe June 14, each year, as Flag Day; and, this year being the sesquicentennial of the adoption of the flag, the week of June 8-14 will be known as Flag Week. It affords me pleasure, therefore, to issue my proclamation calling upon our people to observe, in an appropriate

manner, the day and week indicated. If this period occurred during the school season, I should call upon the teachers throughout the State to give it their especial attention. However, as the schools will have closed, I urgently request that parents, civic organizations and other suitable agencies cooperate in a fitting observance. If it may be done without overstepping the bounds of propriety and without interrupting regular religious services, I request that ministers of the Gospel make some appropriate reference to the Flag and its significance as an emblem of a religious nation on Sunday, June 12. While I am fully aware that Church and State are and must ever remain separate in this democracy of ours, yet true patriotism is so closely linked with moral and religious duties that I see nothing amiss in making this request.

Further, I call upon our citizens to display the National Colors on their homes, places of business and public buildings during Flag Week and especially on Flag Day, and to give thought to what the Flag really stands for; to study its origin and the progress we have made under its enlightening influence, and, finally, to urge upon others the necessity for a proper respect for it.



By the Governor

Charles H. England,
Secretary.

Done at our Capitol City of Raleigh, on this the 5th day of June, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-seven, and the One Hundred and Fifty-first year of American Independence.

Angus W. McLean

Angus W. McLean, Governor