DONT TREAD ON M

The Origins of the & & Stripes

1-"The Stars and Stripes Forever!"-Repro-

duction of the famous picture painted by Henry

Mosler. The British, evacuating New York after

the Yorktown surrender in 1781, nailed the Brit-

ish flag to the flagstaff at the Battery and then

greased the pole. A barefoot sailor boy volun-

teered to climb up, take down the enemy flag and nail the American flag to the pole. From "The

2-The pine tree flag of early Revolutionary

3-The rattlesnake flag of the early American

4-The 13-star flag, one of the earliest forms

5-The 15-star, 15-stripe flag, the form used

6-Flag of the Sixth Regiment of the United

Note: No. 2 to 6, inclusive, are flags in the

exhibit of the United States Marine Corps in

the Federal building at A Century of Progress,

eenth century the red British ensign carrying

the union jack in the canton. The British flag

was altered after the Revolution had begun by

placing 13 stripes in the fly of the flag under the

It was called the "grand union flag," and was

hoisted by Lieut. John Paul Jones on December

3, 1775, in the newly formed American fleet off

Philadelphia, On January 1 or 2, 1776, it was

raised over the newly organized American army

at Washington's headquarters in Cambridge. In

the correspondence of that day it was referred

to as the "American colors." It is interesting

to note that although these American colors

were used six months before the Declaration of

Independence, they still carried the British union

jack in the corner. The thirteen united colonies

were depicted by the thirteen stripes of the field.

til nearly a year after the Declaration of Inde-

pendence. That the "grand union" flag was lit-

tle used in the army is seen from the many flags

of other designs carried by the Revolutionary

troops. In the navy, on account of the necessity

of telling a friend from a foe by his colors, the

same flag was generally used by all congress

In 1775, it was usually the pine tree flag; in

1776, and until June 14, 1777, the grand union,

and after June 14, 1777, the Stars and Stripes. Privateers carried striped and rattlesnake flags

of various designs but it soon became necessary

to carry a uniform design, and this forced the

adoption of a national flag. This is why the

resolution for the adoption of the stars and

stripes appeared in the minutes of the marine

early Revolutionary war flags, it would not have

been at all surprising if that color had found its

way into the national emblem. One of the most

striking flags of the Revolution was a flag with

green fly and a union of 13 links in an endless

chain. Outside the circle of links was a circle of

and grasping the links. In the center of the

chain was a pine tree of green on a blue field.

This was the flag of the Newburyport (Mass.)

company. Green was also the color of the pine

tree and liberty tree flags of Revolutionary days.

scribed green and white as the uniform of offi-

cers in their sea service, and in the same year

the marine committee of the Continental con-

gress in Philadelphia resolved that the uniform

of marine officers be a green coat, white waist-

In April, 1776, the Massachusetts council pre-

13 hands or mailed fists emerging from clouds 8

Because green was such a prominent color in

committee meeting of June 14, 1777.

No flag was authorized by act of congress un-

after Vermont and Kentucky were admitted to

ica," courtesy Yale University Press.

after the flag resolution of June 14, 1777.

Chicago. Photographs by Hack Miller.

war days.

States Marines.

British union jack.

ng of Freedom" in "The Pageant of Amer-



By ELMO SCOTT WATSON



INE 14 is Flag day and it recalls the fact that on that date in 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 it was that the new emblem of the nation came into official existence; thus it was that the Stars and Stripes were born.

But, contrary to the belief of many Americans, this does not mean that our national banner sprang full-grown into being from the brain of one man or one group of men on that June day 156 years ago. The truth is that our flag, like so many other American institutions and symbols, developed by a gradual evolution and derived its inspiration from sources as varied as the strains of blood which have been fused into making "the typical American."

The real origin of our national flag goes back to the banner which was flown by the expedition that discovered the North American continent. This was the simple banner of St. George's cross, in red on a white field, the old flag of England. It was carried by the expedition of Giovanni Cabot, or as he is more familiarly known, John Cabot, the Italian navigator, exploring for England, who discovered the North American continent in 1497. Sailing along the east coast for 1,000 miles, he laid the foundation of English claims to North America. The flag was borne later by Capt. John Smith's ships to the settlement at Jamestown, Va., in 1607 and again by the Mayflower to the Plymouth (Mass.) settle-

Next in the line Colors or the Union Jack, designed in 1606; symbolizing the union of England and Scotland after King James took the throne of the united kingdoms in 1603. This union was represented in the English flag by imposing the English red cross of St. George on the Scottish white diagonal cross of St. Andrew, on a field of blue, There are records of the use of this flag on forts in this country in 1679 and 1696, and this ensign was required in all British dominions by a parliamentary act of 1707.

The term "Union Jack" was probably derived from King James signing documents in the French "Jacques," the pronunciation of which is not unlike "Jack." The "union" came to be applied to that part of our national flag carrying the stars. In fact, when this part of the flag is flown alone on bows of ships, it is called the "union jack" or simply "jack."

Three flags that had an early influence on the design of the Stars and Stripes were the striped flags of the Dutch republic. The Dutch, it will be remembered, first colonized New Netherlands, before it became New York. This territory included New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

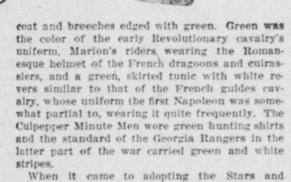
Settlements in these states were made by Dutch colonists under their flags; that of the Dutch West India Co., with three stripes of orange, white and blue; the United States of Netherlands, with six stripes of red, white and blue, and the Rotterdam flag of green and white stripes.

The English East India company finally crowded the Dutch out of sea trade and this company brought a new flag to America, a nine or tenstriped banner of alternating red and white stripes, with a small St. George's cross of red in the upper corner next to the staff. One of the variations in this flag was a pine tree or globe, representing the New world, in the upper left quarter of the union, formed by the arms of the St. George cross. In some flags of this period, the pine tree replaced the St. George cross entirely.

With the Revolution, the struggling colonists wanted something different from a British flag. and the pine tree and rattlesnake emblems appeared; also the legend "Liberty and Union" on a plain fly of red. Then came the Stars and Stripes, When Washington left Philadelphia in 1775, to take command of the army at Cambridge, he was escorted out of the city by the Philadelphia Troop of Light Horse as far as Newark, N. J. The guidon of this troop was of yellow silk and carried in its upper corner, next to the staff, a small union of 13 stripes of silver

and light blue. Stars first figured in the union of a flag carried in 1775 on the schooner Lee by Captain Manley, a Massachusetts skipper, whose ship operated as one of Commodore Hopkins' squadron and captured the Nancy with supplies for the British army November 19, 1775. Thirteen stars on a blue canton formed the union of its flag. They were arranged in five horizontal, parallel rows and were five-pointed. In the blue fly of the flag was a white anchor with the word "Hope" above it. This design was carried by Rhode Island troops at Brandywine, Trenton and Yorktown, but the stars were of gilt on a light blue

Following the early use of the English ensign which carried the St. George's cross in the canton there came into use in the colonies in the Eight-



Stripes, however, the color scheme of green was dropped and various flags of red, white and blue that had been familiar to American colonists for more than 100 years exercised the prevailing influence in the design for the Stars and Stripes. The resolution adopting the flag appears in the

Journal of Congress among a whole page of resolutions presented by the marine committee on the subject of the navy. On the same page with the flag and other marine committee resolutions is one appointing John Paul Jones to the command of the ship Ranger. Jones was presented a flag by some women of Philadelphia and soon afterward he had the Stars and Stripes flying

Contemporary illustrations of Jones' ships and the description of the new flag when it appeared in Europe, show that the early navy flags were arranged with the stars in horizontal parallel rows. Due to their number, the stars were staggered, that is, the stars in one row were placed opposite the spaces between the stars in the next, so that they looked like a constellation in the heavens, as the resolution had described them. On one ship they were in five rows; on another, in three,

Ingenuity began to be displayed in the arrangement of stars in unofficial flags. In some they were arranged in a square: in others, in a circle Some had them in the shape of a single star, a diamond or forming the letters "U. S."

At first, the Stars and Stripes were looked upon merely as a navy flag, but in 1818, under the third flag law, the present general design of the flag was established. This held the number of stripes to 13 and added a star for each state. The second flag law, passed by congress in May, 1795, provided 15 stripes for 15 states as well as 15 stars; but as the number of states was increasing by 1818, it was found necessary to curtail the amount of stripes.

Capt, Samuel Chester Reld, of the navy, hero of a two-day engagement between his small brig and a British squadron of three large ships, was called by the congressional committee to design a flag, and it was his idea to hold the number of red and white stripes to 13 for the original 13 states and to add a star to the union for each new state admitted,

On May 18, 1818, the navy commissioners issued an order, placing the stars in accordance with the navy custom, in parallel horizontal rows and with the stars on the second and fourth rows moved to the right, one-half of a star's space. The order was signed by Commodore John Rogers, president of the navy commissioners. Six months later, he issued a change in the arrangement of the stars, approved by the President. This order required that the stars be arranged in vertical and horizontal parallel rows.

The act of 1818 gave the fixed rule of adding a new star on the Fourth of July next succeeding the admission of the state, but made no statement as to the exact arrangement of the stars and this has been a matter with which the Navy department has been chiefly concerned.

This is because the navy flies the Union alone without the stripes in the bow of ships. The navy has attended to details as to proportions and design of the flag and still issues to all departments, blueprints of changes, after approval by the President. In recent years army and navy have agreed on changes. In 1834, the army prescribed the Stars and Stripes to replace its garrison fiag then in use.

Until 1912 there was some confusion as to the proper distribution of the 48 stars in the blue field. On October 26, 1912, this matter was definitely settled by the executive order of President Taft that the stars were to be arranged in six rows of eight each, symbolizing the 48 states in the order of their ratification. (Thus if you wish to know which star represents your state in the flag, remember what was its number in the order of admission to the Union, then begin counting from the upper corner next to the staff and the star which comes on the number corresponding to the number in the order of admission to the Union will be the star of your

(by Western Newspaper Union.)

Food for Mind Is Necessary

Mental Nourishment Point That Must Never Be Overlooked.

There never was a time when the importance of proper food for the body was more stressed. For years there has been scientific research into what foods are composed of in respect to the nutritive elements they supply. These elements are divided into differing classifications from time to time, but always the nourishing values are given significance. The health of the body in its mate-

rial form is fostered. Since the mind is a vital element of the substantive existence, it. too, requires proper nourishment. It can fall into a decline which is no less regretable than when the physique weakens. The reactionary harmful or helpful influence of the mind over the body is reputed, after research, to be far greater than the reverse effects of health or illness of body on the mind. From this it is easy to see that providing proper food for the mind is no less important than providing proper edibles for the physical body.

In speaking of the mind, the word is used in its broad sense and includes the spirit, since it is the combination which forms the immaterial elements, which though not tangible are no less potent. Electricity is not tangible yet no one denies its wondrous power, of such magnitude it is awe-inspiring. Neither does anyone deny the existence of mind nor its influence for good.

In order to preserve well-rounded good health, both physical food and mental are essential. The latter cannot be neglected. The mind must feed on wholesome food, and digest it well so that its vigorous vitality can exercise its potent influence for good on the material body. Proper mental nourishment should be partaken of so that courage, good cheer happiness, and all the best spiritual qualities can strengthen nerves and sinews in pleasant ways.

Does the question arise, how can I supply the mind with good food? If so, here are some good diets. For tunately they are pleasant to digest. The first is, think good thoughts, for "As a man thinketh, so is he." Put the best construction on actions of others. It tends toward personal peace, without which mind and body are disturbed. Read fine books, fine in the sense of excellence of ideas, those which stimulate the thoughts and nourish the better side of your nature, or which create a hunger and

thirst for more knowledge of history. travel, biographies of noble men, nobly treated, the wonders of nature in flowers, zoology, astronomy, or whatever appeals most to your own individuality.

But above all, seek the food that feeds spiritual growth. It may be through companionship with persons of high character, or through books, contemplation or thinking and believing the best.

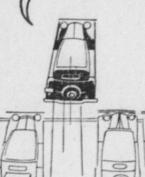
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