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Our Week Of Rededication

CHARLOTTE Today begins its welcome to Freedom Train, a seven-day celebration that will reach its climax next Thursday, November 28, with the arrival of the Red, White and Blue streamliner that has been rolling over the mountains and plains of the land of liberty with a message of new hope and purpose. It's a new hope and greater purpose which will be impressed on the community in the ceremonies and other activities of Rededication Week, the American Heritage program, extending from today until next Thursday.

Rededication Week has a particular significance for Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, a place where freedom first took root in America and where democracy is a habit. It comes at a time when this community is entering a momentous period in its development, playing a large role in an expanding America, which in turn is rapidly assuming tasks of world leadership whose limits cannot be foreseen. Freedom is the foundation and the glory of this whole tremendous enterprise.

Freedom's message for America and for Charlotte and Mecklenburg in the new era which we are entering will be demonstrated in many ways for the citizens during Rededication Week. When they visit the Freedom Train next Thursday, the citizens will be reminded forcibly that freedom is not a static condition but a dynamic spirit which may be preserved and strengthened only by constant exercise and expansion.

They will see that liberty and democracy are not a set of rules or laws, but an idea, a hope, a promise. They will see the treasured documents which trace the growth of this common aspiration from its small beginnings in colonial America to its greatest achievement in the free America of 1947. They will see how this American dream

has grown into the promise of freedom for all mankind in the United Nations, and they will know that they are not celebrating a glorious past, but dedicating themselves to the task of creating an even more glorious future.

On Freedom Train, the people will see the historic documents which have secured and guaranteed their basic rights and which define their obligations as citizens in a society dedicated to liberty, justice and equal opportunity for all. They will be reminded again that those documents have been won with the toll, sweat and tears of countless men and women like themselves, and that the America which cherishes those papers is the collective product of the efforts of communities like Charlotte and Mecklenburg.

Charlotte has acquired much of the new and preserved a great deal of the old in the American heritage. It faces the future with the confidence of the past. Events have made this city the center of a great region which is progressing swiftly in the American way. We have the population, the institutions, the traditions, the social and cultural interests which require major emphasis on each day of Rededication Week—Labor-Management Day today, Agriculture Day tomorrow, Freedom of Religion Day Sunday, School Day Monday, Veterans' Day Tuesday and Women's Day Wednesday.

Circumstances, or fate, decreed that Mecklenburg should play a dramatic part in the winning of American independence. When the British evacuated the city, Charlotte and Mecklenburg should perform an outstanding service in the industrial America which now is engaged in the greatest of all battles for freedom. When we go to Freedom Train Thursday, we must march in a spirit of true dedication to a sacred cause.

For Harding Central And Tech

THE THREE R's of our primer days have been supplemented by the three F's—football, fandom and finances—and young Sir Student now knows the difference between single wing and the split-T as he does about the Pythagorean theorem. He knows that the most thrilling distance between two points 100 yards apart is a weaving, jerking line in which the football is a major part of Sir Student's scholastic life, and it is a common meeting ground for adult and adolescent.

Both the pupil and his parent have savored this football season in Charlotte, for there has been glory enough to be spread around at Harding, Central and Tech. In the win-loss column and in post-season engagements, perhaps, Central and Tech have done more for more glory, but Harding has found comfort in the greatest student support it has ever received and in watching the 1944 team edge its 329 grow through the years into a team of 3,875. It is to be attended to the next season and next year a well equipped team will have the facilities of a new dressing room. The 2,100 students who turned out to see Harding tie Mount

Atry in the season's opener totaled almost twice as much student support as in any other two home games in Harding's history. For Central and Tech, the Western Class AA championship, and tonight against Fayetteville, it will determine whether or not it can double its titular holdings into state domination. Central came close to doing it around the 1940-41 season, but for the season, and attracted an estimated 67,000 without benefit of tonight's anticipated 15,000. Atlanta was the biggest attraction in our town, drawing 15,000 to Greensboro (12,500) excited almost as many fans. In spite of the fact that the last six games were played after or during cold rain storms.

Battered by the elements all season, Tech weathered out a record of seven wins, two losses and two ties, not counting the defeat which it suffered at the hands of Wilmington last night. Some of the banquets and parties around the edge, but Tech came up with one of its greatest years.

To Bill Brannan of Central, Carroll Hambricht of Tech and E. P. Faulkner of Harding go the votes for the three R's Men Of The Season in the three F's.

Farm Policy For North Carolina

THOSE WHO analyze the Government's agricultural policy realize that the world food shortage must be met, in the next few years, by increased production of grain in the United States, since grain commodities are more readily produced here than elsewhere. Farmers may risk destruction of their soil by continuing to follow an all-out grain program. Government experts deem it advisable to abandon diversification and soil conservation programs temporarily to meet world needs. They urge greater production of grain, and less of livestock, in 1948 than in 1947.

North Carolina farmers are not as greatly concerned with this contradiction between a sound long-range farm policy and the immediate need to produce more food than other states. North Carolina produces only about 27 per cent of the corn in the nation, and seven-tenths of 1 per cent of the winter wheat, according to Agriculture Department data. Its cash receipts from grain are only about nine-tenths of 1 per cent of the nation's total.

Under the state's present agricultural economy, North Carolina can play only a minor role in alleviating the shortage of

food in war-torn areas. Its agricultural staples are cotton and tobacco, and there will not be a great increase in grain production within the next year; the agricultural system cannot be revised overnight. It is around the edge, but Tech came up with one of its greatest years.

North Carolina has a total farm population exceeded only by Texas, yet it ranks 38th among states in per farm cash income, and 37th in per capita farm income. Its per capita farm income was \$483 in 1946, \$372 below the national average. It is so less patriotic and no less imperative for our farmers to continue to follow methods designed to obliterate agricultural poverty, and to contribute to the nation's food supply.

From The Christian Science Monitor

Politicians Are People

SO YOU don't want your son to go into politics?

Almost no American parents do, according to a Gallup poll, for they believe that "a political career leads to graft and crookedness."

This is pretty unhealthy thinking in a democracy. It shows a dangerous ignorance of the politician's vital function in society. It tries to shift the blame for our own shortcomings on to his conveniently obvious shoulders.

Politicians are human beings like anyone else. They are not a separate species of good and bad among men. Many are doing a hard job well and getting as many kickbacks as bonbons for it.

But even on the lower levels of self-interest, the politician is the buffer, the reconciler, between innumerable antagonistic interests in society. His very effort to please as many people as possible has the virtue

of looking for compromises. The tensions between groups dogmatically sure of their own rightness might become unbearable without his more yielding and adjustable habit of thought.

This is not to excuse the too-frequent lack of real integrity in the politician. But he is a human being who must share the blame. When the politician is corrupt, someone must do the corrupting. The respected citizen who approaches the politician obliquely with gifts, favors, "campaign contributions"—and an interesting set of private proposals—is not the best person to pass moral judgment on him.

Society gets the politicians it deserves. When it throws fewer temptations in their way, learns to appreciate their problems and achievements, and encourages young men and women of character to join their ranks, there will be less occasion for self-righteous condemnation and more for active support.



Freedom Train

...For All Religious Faiths

LONG before the First Congress assembled in New York in the Autumn of 1789 and submitted to the States 12 proposed amendments to the Constitution—known as the Bill of Rights and containing among other provisions the famous clause "shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," the groundwork for religious freedom had been laid in days of the first settlers.

A conspicuous example in Freedom Train's presentation of important papers is Roger Williams' Statement on Religious Freedom, dated back to 1644. Founder of the Rhode Island Colony, Williams stated his grounds for believing that all individuals and religious bodies are entitled to religious liberty as their natural right.

Williams was a young English minister who came to Boston in 1631 because of his Puritan beliefs and his opposition to the attempts of the King of England to impose uniformity of religious practice. In 1639 the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony found him guilty of disseminating "new and dangerous opinions against the authorities of the church." The following year he was banished to Providence, surrounded by loyal supporters, he set up the earliest Rhode Island settlement.

Returning to England to request a charter for his new colony, he took back to the Bay Colony the liberal cause as a pamphlet, opposing the Puritan attempt to establish a national church and compulsory uniformity in his new colony. The Bloudy Tenent of Persecution, he proclaimed his celebrated statement for religious freedom. "I do hereby declare my belief that 'God requireth not a uniformity of Religion,' and contended that all individuals and religious bodies were entitled to religious liberty as a natural right.

The Library of Congress is responsible for the first edition (1644) of this famous pamphlet, now out of print. Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach is responsible for the exhibit known as The Bay Psalm Book, printed in 1640 by Stephen Daye, and shown in its original binding. This is one of the few surviving copies of the first book printed in the North American colonies. The Bay Psalm Book was recently sold at auction for \$151,000, said to be the highest price ever paid for a single book.

One of the first acts passed by any of the colonies providing a measure of religious tolerance was the Maryland Toleration Act of 1649. The text of this law, as printed in Thomas Bacon's compilation of the Laws of the Province of Maryland, was recently sold at auction for \$151,000, said to be the highest price ever paid for a single book.

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upon his tombstone that he was its author.

Following the Declaration of Independence, the Virginia delegates had repealed all Acts of Parliament concerning religion. Various proposals were made to declare Christianity the religion of the State and to maintain ministers of all denominations by levying taxes on the general populace. Jefferson, who believed firmly in the "natural rights of mankind," opposed all such measures and drafted a bill designed to protect all citizens, regardless of race or creed, in the freedom of conscience.

When his bill to establish religious freedom was introduced in the Virginia House in 1779, it immediately became the subject of such controversy that the action was attempted for the time being. By 1784 conservative tide-water members, who opposed the bill consistently, almost succeeded in putting through a law levying a tax for the public support of religion.

Another famous supporter of free religion was a member by the name of James Madison. Jefferson and Madison brought the issue of religious freedom before the voters in an intensive campaign of speeches and publications. When Jefferson went to France in 1785 to succeed the honorable Benjamin Franklin as U. S. Minister to France, Madison carried on the fight.

The bill passed the Virginia body on Jan. 16, 1786. Here, in a rising tide of religious faith, in a brief and decisive resolution, was the firm foundation of religious freedom in America. "Be it enacted by the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of Virginia, that no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall he be taxed, burdened or otherwise financially or otherwise, in support of any religious establishment or in aid of any religious institution, or shall otherwise suffer, on account of his religious opinions or beliefs; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge or affect their civil capacities."

Jefferson concluded his bill with an admonition to posterity that to repeal or restrict it in the future would be "an infringement of natural right." The bill was signed by Governor Patrick Henry, and by Jefferson himself, was "to comprehend, within the mantle of its protection, the Jew and the Gentile, the Mahometan and the Hindu, the infidel and the believer of every denomination."

Shown on Freedom Train is the text of Jefferson's bill, as amended by the Virginia House of Delegates in 1786. A committee of five, including Madison, was appointed to revise the laws of Virginia, and published in 1794. A committee of five, including Madison, was appointed to revise the laws of Virginia, and published in 1794. A committee of five, including Madison, was appointed to revise the laws of Virginia, and published in 1794.

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Isolationism Fading

AMES, IOWA

OUT of the good black earth of the Midwest have come, in recent years, such bounteous harvests as the farmer of yesterday never dreamed. The increase in production of machinery and of new scientific techniques applied to plants and animals contributed to the growth of wealth that went into the balance on the side of victory in the war.

Now the American farmer is essential to win the peace. The signs are set for four to five years of maximum production, granted always, of course, that the factor of weather is not too uncooperative.

Here at Iowa State College of Agriculture are many of the experts who have put science on the farm. Dean Robert E. Johnson of the graduate college was one of the members of the National Farm Committee who framed that impressive report on American capacities and American resources.

These experts are concerned not merely with the immediate production problem. They are looking at the longer future and trying to appraise the productive value of this black earth a hundred years from now.

On the whole they are optimistic. They believe that, if present methods of soil conservation are extended and better techniques developed and applied to the vast areas of land then there is no reason why production of food crops in 2047 as it is today. In other words, they do not feel that the soil is being cut off by steadily mining it up by a bumper crop of recent years.

A lot of things have happened in the past few decades, but it is not the waste of what is, in the last analysis, the country's most vital asset. One of the most important factors in the war in 1933. Even in Republican years they are willing to admit that it became both practical and profitable to follow conservation principles.

With the spread of scientific knowledge farmers began to use more of the world's resources. But with all this, there is no room for complacency. The experts point to the greatest need of the world search which will make it possible to apply specialized treatment to soils of varying types.

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