



An Independence Day Thought

Liberty's Light Is Going Dim

IF THE MAJORITY of patriotic Americans continue to sit back in the comfort of inflationary prosperity, the so-called minority groups may destroy America. Then nobody will have any rights.

We no longer stand strongly and distinctly as a God-fearing nation whose people take pride in being thrifty, self-reliant, hard-working, creative, ambitious, law-abiding, honest, and self-governing.

We now appear as a vacillating nation whose high court and many other public officials seem to be siding with criminals and atheists, a nation whose people are becoming increasingly dependent upon public welfare support as a way of life, and a nation where honest labor is no longer a badge of honor.

Men claiming to be ministers raise doubts as to the existence of God, and honesty is regarded by many as a good policy only if it is expedient. We have substituted inanity and insanity for morality.

We are governed too often by professional, power-hungry politicians, while eligible voters go fishing or someplace else on election days. Other nations push us around on the land, on the seas, in the air, and at the conference tables.

That is not the way it should be, but that is the way it looks. The degradation will become progressively worse unless we who believe in freedom start moving to retrace our steps toward the fundamental truths of God that made this nation great.

Commentators attempt to gloss the precarious situation by asserting that "there is a restlessness in our time!" or mouthing some other equally inept platitude of appeasement. Bosh!

Has the American Eagle become a paper bird, incapable of protecting rights of either minorities or majority?

By Ferdie J. Deering

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That's nothing new and it is no good excuse for what's going on in America.

There almost always have been times of restlessness. There was a time of restlessness in the Garden of Eden when man first disobeyed God, another when Noah built the Ark, and a great restlessness arose in the Roman Empire at the time of Christ. Still another restless period followed the discovery of America, and yet another when the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock. The American colonists were restless when they declared their independence from the rule of monarchist England.

Later, restless young men moved westward and settled up the prairies and the mountains that became the vast, far-flung United States of America, a stronghold of freedom and good living such as the world had never seen before. Their initiative discovered and developed gold mines and oil fields, built businesses and industries, and made it possible for us to grow more than we could eat, a situation rare in the world's history. These things have made our nation rich.

We must agree that the present time is a period of restlessness, with man

moving far out into space, discovering new marvels of science, and forgetting that God created all of it.

But is restlessness and progress a proper authority for rioting, treason, anarchism, looting, gross immorality, and flagrant intervention by rebellious minority groups with the rights of the majority? We say that it is not.

Neither is restlessness any justification for the courts to free burglars, rapists and murderers to prowl our streets so that honest taxpayers are afraid either to walk abroad or to stay at home. It is no reason to curtail authority of police to curb lawlessness.

If the United States of America is to reach the age of 200 years in 1976, those of us who believe in and appreciate freedom must become restless on our own. We must become actively impatient with those who have nothing constructive to offer but who would destroy the good things that others have just for sake of destruction.

The good people of our nation must again assert the truths of the ages and rise up from our prostration before the forces of evil, the communists, the traitors and anarchists, the rioters and the destroyers.



Freedoms Foundation
at
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We must make it known that liberty assures freedom of action, but that it does not properly allow irresponsible interference with the freedom of action of others. We must make it known that freedom of speech does not include profane disregard of the rights of others. We must put an end to the abuse of the right to assemble peacefully as an excuse to round up a vile mob to attract attention to themselves by destroying public and private property. Looters must be treated as we used to handle other bandits and robbers. We must make our courts and parole boards understand that law-abiding citizens, as well as known criminals, are entitled to protection of their rights.

Atheists and others who lack a sense of direction in their frustrated lives should have the privilege of disbelieving in God or in anything else, if they so choose. They should have the right to dissent and disagree. But they should not be permitted to blaspheme the faith of others and to inter-

fere with our traditional privilege and responsibility for training our children in truth and right.

It is time for real Americans to renew our hold upon the facts of life and history. We must put an end to our shameful cowardice before the malicious demonstrators and the outrageous demanders. Not with intent to annihilate the revolutionists as they would ruin us, our country, and other things worth having, but simply to get them off our backs and to protect the rights and liberty of those who may come after us.

We should again lift high the torch of freedom and decency so that all the world again may see the true meaning of Christianity and democracy.

We should drive away the smog and pollution of immorality and irresponsibility, so that the fires of freedom may again bring light to a confused, discouraged world.

The torch of liberty is flickering and dim, made so largely through the indifference and apathy of people who sincerely believe in the United States of America.

Let's make freedom bright again!

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of
Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
announce with pleasure
the selection of
Ferdie J. Deering
by the distinguished National & School Awards Jury
to receive
The George Washington Honor Medal Award
for
1969 Magazine Article
"Liberty's Light Is Getting Dim"
An outstanding accomplishment
in helping to achieve a better understanding
of the American Way of Life*

*Kenneth D. Wells
President*

Public announcement will be made on February 22nd

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