OLD GLORY: AN ISRAEL SYMBOL!

OUR FLAG IS NOT A RAG!

"Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee."
ISAIAH 12:6

THE STARS AND STRIPES

From an address on the Flag, delivered in Congress by Hon. Frederick C. Hicks of the First New York District (Long Island)

"THE FLAG OF AMERICA does more than proclaim mere power or acclaim a great and glorious history. There are no myths or legends associated with its origin; it tells no story of crushed liberties or violated rights; it sprang neither from the sorrows of the oppressed nor the sufferings of the conquered. Its majestic beauty expresses the independence of a thoughtful, courageous, conscientious people; the faith, the lofty aspirations and the high ideals of representative democracy; the advance of a new Nation dedicated to liberty, to law, to justice and to human rights.

ITS RIPPLING FOLDS wave a benediction to the yesterdays of accomplishment and beckon the tomorrows of progress with hope and confidence; it heralds the noble purposes of a mighty people and carries a message of hope and inspiration to all mankind. Its glowing splendor appeals to us to demand international justice and arbitration; it commands us to self-sacrifice, and to universal obligation of service which alone can maintain equality of rights and fullness of opportunity in our Republic. Its stars and its stripes voice the spirit of America calling to a Nation of indomitable courage and infinite possibilities to live the tenets of Christianity, to teach the gospel of work and usefulness, to advance education, to demand purity of thought and action in public life and to protect the liberties of free government from the aggressions of despotic power.

PATRIOTISM is more than a sentiment; loyalty is more than an expression. The one is the acceptance of the duties—absolute and universal—which every citizen owes his country; the other the determination—sincere and unfaltering—to perform those duties irrespective of the sacrifice. In silent grandeur the flag floats over the graves of the dead, over the homes of the living, the emblem of truth and righteousness, inspiring men's hearts on the land and on sea with faith and hope, the symbol of the power, the unity and the purpose of our Republic, now and forever."

Frederick C. Hicks.