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Torrance Lad Gets Diploma

Jack F. Patton, U.S. in Mechanical Engineering at Torrance was among the members of the 1930 graduation class of the University of Southern California.

Commencement exercises for this year's class marked the end of the first fifty years of the Trojan institution. Over 1200 students received degrees in comparison to the first graduating class of 1835 when 3 seniors were given diplomas.

The 1930 commencement program, Saturday, June 7, was attended by delegates of institutions from all parts of the world who were on the Trojan campus for a one-week South-Central celebration marking the golden anniversary of S. C.

BIRTHDAY OF OLD GLORY RECALLS STIRRING HISTORY OF 153 YEARS



U. S. Marines salute the National Flag at a tropical outpost in the West Indies. Inset: Soldiers of the Sea at San Diego, Calif., during a formal presentation of the mental colors. The National Flag is carried to the right in this and all similar parades or formations. Highest honors are always accorded "Old Glory" by all of our naval or military forces either at home or abroad.

The Birthday of Old Glory, June 14, should bring a responsive thrill to every patriotic American.

It is the most beautiful of all national symbols. Our flag has pointed the way to freedom for countless thousands; its stars and stripes have been an inspiring symbol for more than a century and a half. It stands for patriotism, loyalty and fidelity to the ideals of America.

"Old Glory's" Ancestors This attractive emblem of our nation that has come down to us through the years has been evolved from those earlier banners that once

cheered the hearts of the colonists. In the early days of the Revolution there were many striking flag designs. Some bore military designs with the ominous words of warlike "Don't tread on me" emblazoned on their folds. Others showed the pine tree symbol with the words, "An appeal to heaven." Some showed both the pine tree and rattlesnake, or beavers, anchors, and state mottoes.

Delivers into the flag lore of our country will find scores of such types, each emblematic of the hopes, visions and aspirations of the people who had not yet found liberty and freedom for which they were striving.

The first flag in general use by the colonists consisted of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, symbolizing the thirteen colonies, with a union bearing the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew, where the stars in the blue field now appear. It was called the Grand Union Flag, or First Naval Ensign, and it was the immediate predecessor of the Stars and Stripes, which we so often call Old Glory.

Romance has trailed "Old Glory" from the beginning. It harks back to the days of Betsy Ross, whose nimble fingers wrought with loving care the first sample of the national flag, which was almost identical with the flag as we know it today.

Story of Betsy Ross Mrs. Ross was a widow. Late in the spring of 1776 her little shop on Arch street, Philadelphia, was visited by some distinguished persons. A committee, headed by George Washington, called on Mrs. Ross and submitted a rough design of a new type of flag which they asked her to make. Stars in the blue field had been substituted for the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew.

Descendants of Betsy have vouched for the authenticity of the historic visit, and it is known that not long afterward Congress made an order on the treasury to pay Mrs. Ross a sum amounting to a ward of seventy dollars in the British currency then used "for flags for the fleet in the Delaware river."

June 14, 1777, more than a year after Washington's visit to the little shop, is now recognized as the flag's official birthday. On that date 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."

Thereafter numerous incidents relative to the new flag began to make their appearance in history. Less than three weeks after Congress had authorized the flag, John Paul Jones was at Portsmouth, N. H., preparing to sail abroad on the "Ranger."

"At Portsmouth," writes one naval authority, "Paul Jones attracted about him a heavy sea girl who formed a so-called 'flag bee,' who with much patriotic enthusiasm and many hearty thrusts, wrought out of their own and their mother's hearts a beautiful Star-Spanned Banner, which was thrown to the breeze in Portsmouth Harbor on July 4, 1777."

Avoy's history records that on August 3, Colonel Gadsden, with a company of 80 men, were on the landing at Stonewick, near the present site of Rome, N. Y., when word was received of the new flag design. The garrison was searched for material to manufacture the new flag, presumably the Stars and Stripes, which was displayed the same afternoon from a flagpole on a bastion nearest the enemy. There is, however, no authentic record of

either the Grand Union Flag or the Stars and Stripes, as national colors, ever having been carried into battle.

A Shot for Each Stripe Captain Thomas Thompson of the American ship "Raleigh" fired on a British ship he was pursuing on September 4, 1776, on the sea, hoisted the Continental colors and led their strike to the Thirteen United States," wrote the captain. "Sudden surprise threw them into confusion and their sails flew all aback, upon which we complimented them with a gun for each stripe, a whole broadside into their main. This was the new flag's first encounter at sea."

The Stars and Stripes first floated over a fortress of the Old World, when Lieutenant O'Bannon of the Marines and Midsheepman Mann of the Navy raised the flag over the fortress of Derne, Tripoli, where it was flying to the breeze on April 27, 1805.

"By the dawn's early light" on September 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key saw the Star-Spanned Banner still waving over Fort Mifflin, and composed the song which is now the national anthem. Both the flag raised at Tripoli and at Fort Mifflin had fifteen stars and fifteen stripes, a flag design that remained in vogue from 1795 until 1818. Then Congress authorized the return of the flag to its original form of thirteen stripes, one star being added for each State entering the Union until today there are 48 stars in the blue field.

OROVILLE (UP)—Butte county is the only diamond mining region in California. Mrs. Rose Churchman, school teacher, picked up a one-carat diamond at Cherokee.



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ILL HEALTH LEADS WOMAN TO SUICIDE

Mrs. Fred Westburg Found in Locked Room Dead of Bullet Wound.

WALTERIA—Despondency over ill health is believed to be the cause of the suicide on Friday, June 7, of Mrs. Anna Westburg, 84286 Hawthorne boulevard, Walteria.

Mrs. Westburg was last seen about the yard of her home about 7 o'clock in the morning. When her husband, Fred Westburg, returned from work at evening, he found the doors and windows locked.

With the aid of neighbors, Mr. Westburg forced entrance to the bathroom where he found the body of his wife, clothed in death. She had shot herself with a .45 single-action Colt.

It is believed that the rash act was committed some time between 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

The body was removed to Woods Mortuary where an autopsy was performed. Funeral services were held Tuesday with interment at Wilmington.

The Westburgs had moved to Walteria from Wilmington about four months ago.

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