

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING.
NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES AND
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
July 9, 1953

EXTENSION SERVICE
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

DEAR HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS:

The members of the State Citizenship Committee are interested in each county achieving the goal as set up in its program for this year - observe Citizenship Day in every county, September 17. They suggested that a contest be held in which club women would write skits - the winning one to be used on the program for the day.

I am sending a suggested outline for a program on "Our American Heritage." This material can be worked into a playlet or it is excellent to use in a flannelgraph. If used in this way, I would suggest the following placing of pictures or words:

Home
Church
School
Business
Agriculture
Professions
Commerce
Banking
Communications
Transportation
Industry
Utilities
Mining and Oil
Services

Recreation
Property and Liability Insurance
Direct Investments
Security
 Direct Investments
 Savings Bank
 Building and Loan
 Life Insurance
Seven Roads of Liberty
Government
 Local, state, federal
The Constitution - the binding frame
 which completes the picture
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With best wishes for an effective program and a well planned Citizenship Day, I am

Sincerely yours,

Verna Stanton

Verna Stanton, Asst.
State Home Dem. Agent

VS:jr

OUR AMERICAN INHERITANCE

Our American Way of Life can best be understood by considering the seed from which it grew, the gardeners who planted and cultivated it, the garden in which our way of life was grown and where it flourishes today; and the results, products, and institutions which the combining of these three elements has produced.

I. PRODUCTS OF THE GARDEN

The combining in American of the seed idea, the gardeners and the wonderful garden, has resulted in growing a crop of greatest value and great vitality.

A. Product of the Home

1. Supplies 3 basic material needs; food, shelter, clothing, and provides a base or foundation for all human activities.
2. Pioneers set up institutions around their homes and employed others to help minister to the spiritual, mental, and material needs of those in the home.

B. Product of the Church

1. Good churches do four things for everyone:
 - a. They purify and elevate his ideals and enable him to appreciate the higher spiritual values.
 - b. They persuade him to want and strive for the really worthwhile things of life.
 - c. They convince him that he must earn, merit, and pay full value for everything he receives.
 - d. They arouse in him the spirit of the brotherhood of man.

C. Product of the School

1. Establishment of a public school system is one of the greatest blessings this country has for its people.
2. The school has a three-fold job:
 - a. To instruct the students by making available to them information and knowledge on any and all important or desired subjects.
 - b. To teach the students how to think by presenting both sides of subjects which are matters of theory or opinion; leaving the students free to examine the facts and reach their own conclusions.
 - c. To impress the students with sound American principles while supplying them with knowledge and teaching the processes of clear thinking.

II. BUSINESS PRODUCTS OF THE GARDEN

A. Business is man's means of being useful to others while providing for his own.

B. Business institutions listed below which we have grown in the great American Garden sustain our homes and support our churches and schools. They also provide employment for the majority of us.

1. Agriculture was the first business of practically all of the early American pioneers. The farm home has continued to render three vital services to America:

- a. The Farm produces our food, the raw materials for our clothing, also the raw materials used in making an ever increasing number of useful things used by all our people.
- b. The farm-home grows balanced men and women with more ease than the crowded centers of population. The farm boy and girl have the advantage of having to work out in the open air which produces strong, healthy bodies. The very nature of their work with growing plants and animals gives them interesting thinking to do. They learn the law of progress, even though unconsciously at the time, which is:

PURPOSE flows through ACTION into RESULT

- (1) In the winter they purpose to have corn in the fall for food, feed, and the market.
- (2) In the spring they prepare the land, plant the seed and cultivate the growing stalks - adequate action.
- (3) In the fall they harvest the ripened corn - the result.

All of which tends to help them in adult life, to fix sound purposes and insist on performing the necessary acts, each well timed to produce the result they want.

- c. The farm-home strengthens the entire citizenship and social structure of America: Farm boys and girls move to the village and adjust themselves to its life; then to the county seat town, to small cities and even directly to the leading cities. When they arrive, whether as a business executive, a leader in some profession, or as a secretary, stenographer, clerk or mechanic, they bring broad and solid foundations on which to stand. They know life and are better equipped by actual living experience to appreciate and apply the underlying principles of our inheritance.

2. Professions

- a. Doctors, lawyers, teachers and many other types of specially trained persons.

3. Commerce

- a. Delivers raw materials to factories and finished products to stores and other business institution for sale or use.

4. Banking

- a. Provides an aid to doing business
- b. Circulates money and makes it a more convenient order for the things we want.

5. Communications.

- a. Fast mail train, telegraph, telephone, wireless, air mail, and international cables.
- b. Daily, weekly, and monthly, newspapers and magazines.

6. Transportation

- a. Streamlined trains, motor buses and trucks, ocean liners, air planes, automobiles equipped with radios.

7. Industry

- a. Has provided purchasing power for higher standards of living.
- b. Production of many items, increased wages and better products are results.

8. Utilities

- a. Supply water, sewage disposal, electricity, gas and power to home, business, and industry.

9. Mining and Oil

- a. Mines and oil wells provide power, heat, lubrication and basic raw materials which keep the factories.

10. Services

- a. Laundry, shoe repairing, beauty shops, etc.

11. Recreation

- a. A great service to help balance our work life.

12. Insurance

- a. Protection against loss to the individual and business

13. Security

- a. From the beginning the early American provided with his own property security for himself and family.

- (1) Property was acquired and owned by direct investment.
- (2) Savings Bank established in 1816.
- (3) Building and Loan Association established in 1831.
- (4) Life Insurance established in 1835.

III. ROADS OF LIBERTY

- A. Roads of Liberty lead from the American's home to his church, school and business. As long as they are kept open, those in the home are guaranteed:

- 1. Liberty of action to select and worship in the church of their choice.
- 2. Liberty of action to provide for their children the kind of education they want the children to have.
- 3. Liberty of action to engage in and promote any business they wish.
- 4. Liberty of action to change from one vocation, profession, or business to another.

- B. When dwellers in the home have full liberty of action they are living the American way of life.

- 1. It is a dynamic way of life because it is a free way for everyone so long as the rights of others are respected. It releases the individual from bondage so that he may grow in the expression of his personality, man's inviolable human soul.

2. It is an individualistic way of life under which man assumes the responsibility of making permanent provision for himself and dependent ones.
3. It is a capitalistic way of life. It safeguards every citizen in his just right to earned private property, with which to provide his family with present and future individual independence.
4. It is a free enterprise way of life. Every one is free to invest, or engage in any kind of business and take the chance of profit or loss.
5. It is a personal way of life. Each individual may choose his or her friends and associates from those of any group, class, creed, or race; or, he may have only a few carefully selected friends and associates - he may be a democrat or an aristocrat and yet be an American.

IV. GOVERNMENT

- A. Government fills the vacant space above the home and completes our American Way of Life with its circle of basic institutions.
 1. The American pioneers developed their local government along with and as a vital part of their growing way of life. It was then natural for them to set up a central, federal government that would protect their New American Way of Life.

V. OUR CONSTITUTION - THE BINDING FRAME

- A. With the Constitution as the binding frame, we complete the picture of our American inheritance as stated in the first paragraph of this outline.
- B. Basic function of the Constitution is to hold together, in balanced relation to each other, the home, church, school, business and government. Everything that is dear to an American citizen lies within the rim of this wheel; an entirely American way of life, an American form of Government that was set up to perpetuate that way of life render an All-American Constitution - Our American Inheritance.
- C. The foundation principles of our American way of life - Freedom, Liberty and Independence have been preserved under our Constitution. These are expressed in the seven reasons stated in the Preamble to the Constitution.

"We, the People of the United States, in order to form a more

perfect union
establish justice
insure domestic tranquility
provide for the common defence
promote the general welfare and
secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity

do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

The Constitution was put into final form and signed September 17, 1787.

OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE

