

# PASTOR PLEADS FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TODAY

Rev. Fackler Draws Lessons  
From Independence  
Day.

Making a plea for citizens to retain all the freedom guaranteed to them by the Declaration of Independence, the Rev. L. C. E. Fackler preached a strong sermon Sunday on "This 150 Years of American Liberty" at St. Matthew Lutheran church.

"One hundred and fifty years ago today," the Rev. Fackler said, "the forefathers of our country, after earnest deliberation, decided to declare themselves independent. They did not do this to multiply their troubles.

"They were not a trouble seeking class of people; neither were they lovers of war. Their souls craved for peace and liberty.

"They believed that the Government should be of the people, by the people and for the people. Such noble thoughts inspired the fathers of our country. They had an eye to the future and desired to bequeath to their posterity true liberty, not only civil but religious liberty.

"Now we are the recipients of the fruits of their efforts. As long as we as a nation do not permit ourselves to be entangled with the yoke of bondage and as long as we stand fast in that liberty wherewith Christ has made us free we shall enjoy unfettered.

"Our Nation has occasionally suffered internal and external disturbance during the century and one-half, nevertheless our peace and liberty were not seriously effected. We as a Nation ought on this day to be thankful for the 150 years of American liberty which we have been permitted to enjoy.

"The event that took place on this day had nothing to do directly with the salvation of souls nor with the work of the church. We do not commemorate a fact on this day like on Good Friday or like on Reformation day, yet there has been delivered unto us on this day the right to worship God according to the dictates of our conscience influenced by God's word.

**Religious Freedom**

"Some historical facts bring to light the deep measure of devotion which impelled our ancestors that they might bequeath unto us real civil and religious blessings. The members of the Lutheran Church were a great factor in helping to lay the foundation stone of our country. As early as 1532 a colony of Lutherans settled on American shores. The early settlers were not without spiritual care.

"The first Protestant minister to be buried in this country was a Lutheran minister, the Rev. Jensen. Not until about 1703 did the Lutherans migrate to this country in great numbers.

"The cause for this was the conditions brought about by the thirty years' war. The people turned their faces then to a land where they might enjoy better conditions and be permitted to worship God unmolested. Some settled in Pennsylvania and others in the State of Georgia. From these settlements came many loyal supporters of Washington who took an important part in the Government of the early days.

**Duties Neglected**

"It was through the earnest effort of the Lutheran Pastor Muehlenberg that six tribes of Indians were prevented from taking part with the French in their warfare against the early settlers. The Royal-American regiment under General Boquet gained the day at Ft. Pitt and checked Pontiac's conspiracy.

**No More Bondage**

"History tells us how our forefathers stood fast in their liberty of Christ and were not entangled with the yoke of bondage. What will be said of the future generation? Will they abuse the liberties of today and consider liberty a license to do whatever they please?

"Who knows what the future will bring forth? We can easily surmise if the citizens will not follow the pure teachings of God's word. The nation will not rise above the standard of its citizens. As the character of the citizens so the nation. If the young and the old will not imbibe the true word of God and their characters molded by the spirit of truth, can they stand firm in true Christian liberty?

"Can we expect a Muehlenberg, a body of fusiliers or a Washington or a Lincoln? This ought to prompt us to be faithful to Him unto death. He died in order to secure eternal salvation for those who are His.

"We need to keep our feet from entangling alliances which will shackle the future citizens therefore divine guidance and Christian understanding is needed by all those in office.

"We need Christians who are not looking only for their own interests but for the welfare of our country. We need citizens that will inspire the public to live a life in God. We need leaders that will keep the nation from any entangling alliances which will rob us of our precious liberty," the Reverend Fackler said.

**WHAT! NO EGGS!**

"LONDON.—People develop the mentality of a cow if they drink large quantities of milk, according to Dr. Savvros Damaglov of Athens. One of the worst centers of infection in the world is the hen's egg, he also declared. Dr. Damaglov was addressing a vegetarian congress.

**CHILDREN'S TOURS**

STOCKHOLM.—School children from the mountains will be brought down to see the plains, and children from the plains will go to the mountains, according to a new project in Swedish education. Several agencies are cooperating with the Department of Education to furnish the tours.

# Extra! The Indianapolis Times Extra!

VOLUME X

JULY 4, 1776

NUMBER XXVIII

## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IS SIGNED

Copies to Be Distributed at  
Once—British Oppres-  
sion Cited.

Editor's Note—This is the last of a series of articles written from time to time, setting record, in the stirring events which led up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The "dispatches" have been dated as of 1776. They have been the creation of a modern reporter who would have handled one of the greatest series of news items in journalistic history. It is the intention of The Times to then breathe new life and interest into the much-quoted chapter of The Nation's life story.

By Ruth Finney

Times Staff Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA, July 4, 1776.—Fifty-six members of the Continental Congress today committed themselves irrevocably to the cause of liberty by signing their names to the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration, slightly modified from the first draft, was read to the Congress by Benjamin Harrison, and was approved without objection.

Copies of it will be distributed at once so that it may be proclaimed in each of the United States and at the heads of the armies.

**The Document**

The Declaration reads:

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect of the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

**Self-Evident Truths**

We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world;

For imposing taxes on us without our consent;

**Jury Trials Denied**

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury;

For transporting us beyond seas, to be tried for pretended offenses;

For abolishing the free system of English law in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies;

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering, fundamentally, the forms of our governments;

For suspending our own legislatures and declaring themselves in-

ditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judicial powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone for their tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

**People Harassed**

He has created a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitutions and unacknowledged by our laws, giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation.

He has excited domestic insurrection among us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is to scalp and to destroy.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in our attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity; and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and

of humanity.

**Security of the Object.**

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evince a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government.

The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

**Duties Neglected**

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained: and, when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature—a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

**Assemblies Dissolved**

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining, in the meantime, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without and consuls within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the law for the naturalization of foreigners refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither and raising the con-

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