

From "City Holds Auspicious Celebration at Flag Raising on Genesee Peak"  
*The City of Denver*, 11/14/1914, p 8



Caption 1: Commissioners Grouped Round the Flags Presented to the City by the Public School Children Prior to Its Being Raised on the Summit of Genesee Peak

### ***City Holds Auspicious Celebration at Flag Raising on Genesee Peak***

Today Old Glory waves from the summit of Genesee mountain, [8,250?] feet above the sea.

Bareheaded and solemn, the city commissioners and parties of motorists Sunday, Nov. 1, stood at the unfurling of national and state flags, marking the dedication of the mountain parks to the public of Colorado and tourists of the entire country.

The brightness of the sun, the crispness of the autumn air, the sublimity of the snow-capped peaks and the [greenness?] of the wooded mountains, made the moment at high noon, when Commission of Safety Nisbet fired three shots of his pistol and the flags majestically floated into place.

The love of the children of Denver, the boys and girls of the public schools, who presented the city with the flag, went into the spirit and substance of the flag raising ceremonies. The state emblem, which flies below the Stars and Stripes, came from the Sons of Colorado, a gift to the city last Colorado day at the patriotic exercises held at City Parks.

Wardner Williams, in simple, sincere words, made the dedicatory address. Mayor Perkins, Commissioners Otto F. Thum, Alexander Nesbit, John Hunter, Superintendent of Parks Frederick Steinhauer, and A. C. Carson, designer of the Colorado flag, assisted in the unfurling exercises.

The spectators gave three lusty cheers for the red, white and blue and the state colors.

Following is the address of Mt. Williams:

Commissioners of the city and county of Denver, the Builders of this wonderful Parkway System, the Designer of the Colorado Flag, and Friends:

We are assembled today on the solid granite of the Continental Divide to unfurl in the mountain breezes of heaven our national and state flags, thereby dedicating this superb mountain park to the use of the people. Standing far removed from the turmoil of every day life with the earth beneath and heaven above, let us for a moment contemplate the significance of this simple event. The flag of our nation typifying the spotless white of opportunity, streaked with the blood of honest endeavor, and presided over by the stars of hope, is an inspiration and a reminder of the history and destiny of this great republic.

The greatness of a country depends upon the character of the people who declare allegiance to the flag under which they live.

As we gaze upon the flag so dear to all liberty-loving Americans, let the responsibilities of a greater civilization and sincere devotion to country sink deep into all our hearts. With our minds recalling valiant deeds of the past, we should solemnly address ourselves to the problems of the present.

Today the stars and stripes are respected throughout the civilized world. Nevertheless we should remember that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance.

Our nation, born in trial and suffering, and nurtured by the best blood and brain of our forefathers, must be maintained right, just and free.

No citizen of the world who does not stand for right, justice and liberty first, last, and all the time, is worthy to seek protection under the folds of these precious stars and stripes. Lincoln said, "A nation cannot long endure, half slave and half free." So it may be said, a nation cannot long exist if governed in the interest of a few people instead of in the interest of all the people.

There are foes within a nation and foes without, and by far more dangerous are the foes within.

There is but one fundamental principle of enduring government, and that is righteousness.

The trend of liberty has ever been westward.

The banner of progress has been advanced from Asia to Europe, and on to the new world, and floats today over the land of which you and I are citizens.

The highest civilization known to the world is, we believe, under the providence of God, to be worked out on this hemisphere—the melting pot of the nations of the earth. The court of final appeal is always the conscience of the people. National conscience makes and unmakes the governments of the world.

The time has come when we should look upon all men as brothers.

Armies and battleships can never settle world problems. The "still small voice" amidst the thunderings of contention is arbiter in the destiny of nations.

The eyes of the world are upon the old flag we fling to the breeze today from this altitude of over eight thousand feet above sea level.

[...], devastated homes, fatherless children and weeping widows in war-[torn?] Europe [call] with pathetic voices

to we of this peaceful and liberty-loving republic for help and leadership.

What a picture is that of our beloved President sitting at the bedside of his [de...com...], with tablet and pencil in hand, writing a loving note of peace to the [warring?] monarchs of Europe, saying "I will take the fastest cruiser the United States possesses, and sail to any port of Europe you may designate, and sit down and see if we cannot find a solution of the differences which have arisen between your governments."

The contending nations of the old world may disregard for a time the proffer of our good [??], but after they have destroyed [?? Cities], and shed blood enough, they will turn to the old flag which you unfurl today on these everlasting hills, for council, and pray that peace may again reign throughout the world.

What the United States needs today more than she needs armament or battleships, is men of the dreadnaught type, with the calm eyes of faith, a broad and just view of life, and a just appreciation of the rights of struggling humanity.

The most powerful gun in the world is truth. It can deliver its message far beyond that of any instrument of steel that ever has been or ever will be

constructed. There are great problems confronting this nation. The assimilation of foreigners who are continually seeking our shores of freedom and opportunity, the preservation and development of our internal resources, the development of our trade among the nations of the earth, the establishment of a great merchant marine, and various questions arising from the fact that the United States is now a world power. The star of opportunity is now resting over the United States, and unless our eyes are [?] we will see in this a responsibility and privilege unparalleled in the history of civilization.

If our conception of government is broad and just, no enemy can ever lower the stars and stripes from the battlements of this great republic.

This is a time for men to commune with God, and as we stand gazing up at the flying folds of our national and state emblems we should consecrate ourselves anew to the cause of peace of the world and the salvation, not the destruction, of men.

In this time of opportunity and responsibility, let us salute these flags and echo the refrain among these inspiring mountain peaks, of "Peace on earth and good will to men."

[photo not available]

Caption: The Star-Spangled Banner and the Colorado Flag Flying From the Ninety-Foot Flag Pole on Genesee Mountain. Altitude of Flags, 8,340 Feet.