

disheartening struggle, is the way of personal freedom; of individual liberty; of the right of every man to work out his own destiny and to be his own master so long as his actions do not infringe upon the rights of his neighbor. The American way of living is based on a profound belief in the dignity of man as an individual, and bespeaks for him unhampered right to the use of his God-given faculties and powers. The American way of living places everyone on an equal plane, with equal opportunity and—mark this well—with equal responsibilities.

Those who accept the manifold privileges of the American way of living must recognize that every right entails a corresponding duty, and that, as Americans worthy of the name, they must be prepared to defend the rights that they enjoy in direct proportion to the high value in which they hold them.

Such a concept of the way of life which is open to every resident of our Country absolutely prevents acceptance by our people of the new theories that underlie the national policy of dictator-ruled states. No sane person who appreciates and values the national policy of dictator-ruled states. No sane person who appreciates and values Democracy could bow down and subject himself to any theory of government which makes the state the all-important being. Americans will never submit to any self-constituted ruling group, because too long have they enjoyed the Democratic way of rule: Too well do they know that the business of government is carried on by men no better or wiser in the long run than themselves. Democracy and the American system of government are based on a relationship between man and government under which man is the government, choose his own leaders, and delegates to them only such control of his individual and group activities as he feels should be delegated.

Is this the ideal form of government? We believe it is. And despite our realization that it is not perfect, we challenge any other system of government that ever has existed or that now may be striving for mastery to prove its superiority to our own form: Looking down through the paths of history, we find many other great nations that arose and flourished for a while and now are gone. Egypt, Greece, Rome: here on our own continent, the ancient civilizations, so long past that every record of them is almost extinct; all have faded away. Why? Because, possibly, they lacked that one world's leading exponent of Democracy. They lacked that God-given principle of individual liberty, and in the final analysis that is the thing that properly brought about their downfall. For man, no matter how abject he may become under despotic rule, finally manages to unseat the despotic power above him, and then it is that ruination follows.

Thoroughly in keeping with the American doctrine of free action for all of its citizens has been America's international policy. Throughout the years, and particularly since America has come to man's estate and taken its place at the head of the world family of nations, our national policy has been an unselfish one, completely non-aggressive, seeking no new territories, making no selfish alliances. So satisfied have we been with the progress and prosperity wrought by our own democratic theories that our one desire has been to spread the knowledge and appreciation of these theories, that the peoples of all the nations of the world might enjoy the same prosperity and peace that was our lot. There is not a privilege we ourselves enjoy that we would not share gladly with all the world.