

THE AMERICANISM MEDAL

Founded in Honor of Morris and Dora DeLee.

An Explanation of Its Symbolism, and Its Purpose.

The central theme is Ex Luce Caritas et Justitia, from Light come Charity and Justice. Light is synonymous with truth, and what brought the light and truth that led us out of savagery to the precarious level of what we call civilization?

The old Bible and the coming of Christ. These are symbolized on the obverse of the medal.

The Tablets of Stone bearing the Ten Commandments appear on the heavenly clouds. Think how happy the world would be if these simple moral laws were honored by all men!

Under the Tablets of the Law appears the Menorah, the holy seven branched candelabrum. It was placed in the Tabernacle in Moses' time and symbolizes the six days of the Creation and the seventh day, the Sabbath; also the seven continents of the earth and the seven heavens, all lighted by the Law of God.

Alongside is the Star of Bethlehem set in the Cross shining on the Christ child, to indicate that with His coming more light was brought to humanity to aid their toilsome march to civilization.

On the reverse of the medal is our revered and beloved flag, which stands for Americanism. And what is Americanism? It is a way of life component of

1. Freedom of the mind, which is liberty of conscience.
2. Freedom of the spirit, which is liberty of religion.
3. Freedom of the body, which is liberty of person.

4. Freedom of speech, which is liberty of redress.
5. Freedom to pursue happiness, which is liberty of effort.
6. Freedom to practice righteousness and to do charity.

Below, on the medal, is the book of learning and on it the torch of progress. Learn your world and carry the lighted torch of progress ever forward for more light.

I am hoping that this medal will be a sort of shrine in your home, a constant inspiration to you for seeking the light of truth, of obedience to the universal God given laws, of the spirit of Jesus Christ, of charity and justice to all, which is true Americanism.

May I tell you a few things about Morris and Dora DeLee whose names appear on the medal?

My Father and Mother were the first members of the Jewish People to settle in Cold Spring. This was about ninety years ago. They grew up with the village. They partook of its joys and its sorrows. No one ever thought they were different from their neighbors except that they worshipped God in a different way, and said their prayers in a language that was neither English nor Latin, but the same that Christ spoke. When the children grew up they said their prayers in English, and no one thought there was anything wrong with that either.

Everybody knew Morris and Mrs. Morris as they were affectionately called, and they knew everybody else with the same respect and affection.

Ten children were born in Cold Spring of which I was the ninth.

We all have a tender spot in our hearts for Cold Spring,
and the Morris and Dora DeLee Medal of Honor was established in
gratitude for the Americanism which the family enjoyed here and
which we all absorbed.

Joseph B. DeLee, M. D.