



1928

Constitution Week

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CONSTITUTION WEEK

Last month we referred to the fact that September 15 to 21 would be Constitution Week, urged a renewal of faith in our fundamental law, but warned against idolatrous admiration.

Let us now move from that generalization to something more specific by first referring to certain utterances of candidates in the last Presidential campaign, and then quoting the Constitution.

Said Candidate Smith: "A man or woman not sufficiently interested in the welfare of the country to take the trouble to cast a ballot cannot be said to be a very good citizen."

Said Candidate Hoover: "The ballot is the most sacred individual act in that great system of self-government which we have inherited and which it is our duty to carry forward."

Says Section 1 of Article 15 of the Constitution of the United States: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States gives Congress the right to "exercise exclusive legislation" over the District of Columbia.

A half million Americans, residents of this District, are now protesting against denial of access to the Federal Courts and of representation in the National Government. They hold the Constitution "in profound respect," but "this side of idolatry."