

by Jane B. Schuler
Staff Writer/Publications Division

If a young art student wants to make money, Paul Hadley would urge him not enter the profession. "But, if the young man wants to find much beauty and joy in life at the sacrifice of much else, then I would say 'yes'," says Hadley, designer of the Indiana State Flag (*Star Magazine*-April 29, 1951).

At the twenty-third Continental Congress of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), held in Washington, D.C. in April 1914, attention was called to the fact that Indiana had no State flag.

The lack of a State banner prompted DAR members Mrs. Gaar of Richmond and Mrs. John Carey of Indianapolis to organize a contest. A committee was appointed to develop the idea and secure the adoption of a State flag symbolizing the history, valor, products and activities of the past 100 years. The winning designer would receive a prize of \$100.

A formal notice was issued by the State banner committee, stating that the Indiana DAR and 14 other patriotic societies had decided that the Indiana Centennial observance should be lastingly marked by the creation and adoption of an Indiana State Banner, and inviting citizens of the State to compete in the creation of a fitting emblem.

The committee established the following criteria for the competition: "The banner design must be original, direct, bold and simple; clearly symbolical of Indiana, or expressive of a high ideal suitable for adoption; capable of easy and inexpensive reproduction, and having a limited number of primary colors."

Individuals, lodges and patriotic organizations were urged to participate in the development of a flag that would "symbolize through future generations the great underlying principles which have made us a distinctive part of the whole Union." Statewide interest was demonstrated when the committee received between 200 and 300 designs.

Paul Hadley, Indiana State Flag Designer

At the close of the contest on October 1, 1916, the State banner committee met with representatives of the 15 societies involved. Eleven votes were cast for the design submitted by Mooresville resident Paul Hadley, and four for the next best design. Three designs were then submitted to a committee of military men, who also chose the Hadley design.

During the process of selection, it was discovered that an act had been passed in 1901 making the United States flag the Indiana flag. This, however, was in conflict with a law that prohibits the adoption of the U.S. flag as the flag of any one state.

Asked to make his proposed banner in cloth, and unable to sew, Hadley glued the torch, stars and lines in place on a flag two feet by one-and-one-half feet. After 61 years, the design is still in good condition. Narrow gold fringe surrounds the banner, which is in the collections of the Children's Museum in Indianapolis.

When the design had finally been chosen, it was submitted to the Indiana General Assembly of 1917 for formal adoption. The committee succeeded in obtaining passage of the bill through the Senate by the efforts of Senator Harry E. Negley of Marion County, who added the word "Indiana" above the large center star. The bill passed the House on the last night of the 1917 session, enabling the committee's efforts to be regarded as part of the work of the State's Centennial celebration.

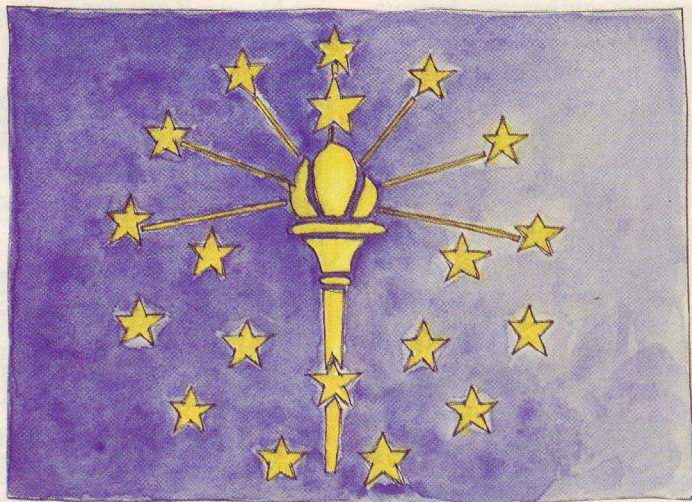
Paul Hadley's design was selected for its symbolic significance and the simplicity of design. The torch in the center stands for liberty and enlightenment; the rays represent the far-reaching influence of these principles. The outer circle of 13 stars stands for

the original 13 states, with the inner half circle of five stars representing the five states which next entered the Union. The large star above the flaming torch represents Indiana, 19th state admitted to the Union. The field is blue and the design gold, edged by a gold fringe.

Senate Bill No. 344 concerning adoption of the State banner reads: Sec. 1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana that a state banner is hereby adopted, and the same shall be the following design, and dimensions to wit: Its dimensions shall be 5 feet and 6 inches fly by 4 feet and 4 inches hoist, and the field of the same shall be blue with 19 stars and a flaming torch in gold or buff. Thirteen stars shall be arranged in the outer circle representing the original states: five stars in the half circle below the torch and inside the circle.

Sec. 2 The banner described in Sec. 1 hereof shall be regulation and in addition to the American flag, with all of the militia forces of the state of Indiana, and in all public functions in which the state may or shall officially appear.

An outstanding water color artist, Hadley was born in Indianapolis August 6, 1880, the son of Dr. Evan Hadley, M.D. and Ella Quinn Hadley. He attended Shortridge High School, but transferred to Manual Training High School to study art with painter and illustrator Otto Stark. After graduation, Hadley entered the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Arts in Philadelphia, first studying to be a stained glass designer and later joining a Chicago interior design studio. Hadley assisted in designing the Kennebunkport, Maine residence of Hoosier author Booth Tarkington.



Hadley's favorite subjects were "forsaken old buildings that had withstood the stress of time and weather, as well as stately picturesque homes." In a 1934 exhibit at the John Herron Art Institute in Indianapolis, his work was described as a refreshing

contrast to stark realism. An art critic in the September 7, 1947 Indianapolis *Sunday Star* said, "When Paul Hadley does landscape paintings in the water colors, he puts so much personal charm into his work that it might easily impress gallery visitors as entirely

Left: The original banner, which was trimmed with gold fringe, was selected for its symbolic significance and simplicity of design.

creative. As a matter of fact, it is realism of the finest type. His trees have character — there's no mistaking a willow for an oak, nor a maple for a sycamore."

Another art critic, Lucille Morehouse, wrote, "As a designer and painter of still life, Paul Hadley has few equals."

Hadley died January 31, 1971 in Richmond, Indiana at the age of 91. Remembered as a kind and thoughtful man with a dry wit and subtle sense of humor, Hadley's paintings reflect his gentle nature.

INDIANA

Notes of Interest in Life of
PAUL HADLEY
Designer of Indiana State Flag

Paul Hadley, designer of the Indiana State Flag and one of the Hoosier State's outstanding water color artists, was a former Mooresville resident. He was born in Indianapolis August 5, 1880. His parents were Dr. Evan Hadley, M.D. and Ella Quinn Hadley, a former native of New Albany, Indiana. Dr. Hadley was born in the Bethel neighborhood southwest of Mooresville. He later moved to Indianapolis where he had a successful practice until his retirement. He then moved to Mooresville. The family consisted of four sons, Evan, Chalmers, a librarian in Cincinnati, Dr. Harvey, a well known physician in Richmond, Indiana and Paul.

Paul entered Shortridge High School, but at the end of the year entered Manual Training High School in order to take art under the late Otto Stark. After graduation he entered the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Arts in Philadelphia. The school had an unusual staff of instructors and Paul made quite a record for himself and captured most of the student prizes during the last year.

He first studied to be a designer of stained glass and worked in a Philadelphia studio at this work until he took a position in Chicago, which specialized in interior designs and most of his work for many years was in this field. One home he assisted in designing was the Kennebunkport, Maine residence of the late Hoosier author, Booth Tarkington. For many years he had a studio in Indianapolis and was instructor at the Herron Art Institute where his out-of-door sketches in water color attracted attention. He received water color and Pastel Awards at the Hoosier Salon; in 1938, a donor purchased the water color, "Old Place", from the Indiana Artists Club Exhibit. His paintings are to be found in private collections, homes, Shortridge High School, Broad Ripple, Emmerich Manual Training, West Lafayette and other places including Mooresville Public Library and Paul Hadley Junior High School, Mooresville. He made two trips to Europe for study.

Paul is decidedly democratic and varied, as proven by his paintings, for he paints only things that interest him. Many of his paintings depict buildings that have withstood the stress of time and weather. A favorite locale for his paintings is in and near the quaint town of Madison and along the Ohio River.

Mr. Hadley is a tall, erect man with white hair. He is a quiet, modest and dignified person, yet very often delights his friends with an unexpected bit of quick humor. He is a lover of nature, enjoying long walks in the country. He is a member of the Portfolio Club, Indiana Artists Club, the Mooresville Nature Club and the Mooresville Friends Church.

In addition to being known throughout the state and in many parts of the nation for his contributions to art, he designed the Indiana State Flag or Banner. The Daughters of the American Revolution sponsored a prize winning competition for a design of a state flag in 1916. The winning design was submitted by Mr. Hadley and was chosen by the General Assembly in 1917 in honor of Indiana's 100th Anniversary. The torch in the center stands for liberty and understanding. The rays represent the influence. The outer circle of stars represents the original thirteen states of the United States, and the inner circle of stars is for the next five states to enter the union. Indiana, the nineteenth state, is represented by the large star. The background color of our flag is blue, and its design is gold.

The Junior High School building in Mooresville was named the Paul Hadley Junior High School in his honor. The dedication took place in the spring of 1967. School children, school authorities and local organizations took part in the dedication. Mr. Hadley was not able to be present for the festivities and receive the acclaim of the community, old friends and neighbors and see first hand the new building and the tall staff before it from which the state flag he designed is kept flying with the Stars and Stripes.

As of June 1969, Mr. Hadley is in the Reid Memorial Nursing Home, Richmond, Indiana.

(These facts were gleaned from relatives and close friends by the Mooresville Public Library)

NOTE: Mr. Hadley died January 31, 1971, Richmond, Indiana.

Buried Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, Indiana.