

Made in America

By Mike Harris

At the close of the last meeting on Monday, May 7th, the topic for the coming week was announced. "Made in America". Next to me sat "Harry", I think is his name, a superb product and example of "Made in America" who immediately created for me a dilemma ... "Made" became "Maid" ...which one to choose? On that same day the "Wall Street Journal" devoted an entire section to women i.e. maids in the financial and economic world. I think of myself as fairly courageous but I am not about to try to tackle a touchy subject like "Maid in America". I am instead going to tell you about what I consider to be the most important product that has ever been Made in America.

In the beginning, the planet we call earth was inhabited by many creatures, among them a humanoid who by all the rules of survival really should have disappeared from the planet. He was not fleet of foot, not overly muscular, not endowed with especially prominent fangs or claws. Yet he survived and in time dominated the planet, and still does. How or why? BRAIN over BRAWN. His unique ability to conceive an abstract thought and act on it to solve his problems is still the key to his survival and dominance. In order to survive nature's harsh environment, he learned to adapt. Not naturally having a fur of his own, he took from the creatures around him their furs. In time he learned how to make fire and so changed and controlled his climate and so forth.

Over a millennium, tooth and fang, the dinosaurs were crowded out and humanoid "man" filled the planet. His nature to dominate did not change! He continues to try to dominate his fellow creatures and creates chaos in this world to this day.

But I am getting ahead of myself, so let's back up. The part of the planet that became most crowded, I will for convenience purposes call Europe. Here there was constant war and chaos as man tried to dominate man. Powers emerged as the development of abstract ideas are implemented and man devised ways to travel on water and expansion starts. Spain, Portugal, France, the Netherlands and England all tried for a foothold in the newly discovered lightly inhabited continent. The same chaos was imported to this new world. However the human inhabitants already here had also developed their own chaos, since they had a very similar brain. Then a new element evolved and the characteristics of the imported forces began to be modified by the new immigrant. Over a period of approximately 250 years, a new force evolved called "we the people" and a new product was manufactured called "democracy." And democracy manufactured by "we the people" made in America was exported to the rest of the planet. Quite a product "DEMOCRACY" manufactured by 'WE THE PEOPLE' ... and MADE IN AMERICA.