The law we recognize and respect is not the mere exercise of power. It is not just a device to enforce the status quo. Law is a process of continuous growth that allows the creation of new rights for all men through a deliberative, democratic process. It is a system that permits existing rights to be protected, injustices to be remedied, and disputes to be resolved, without recourse to self-defeating violence.

That is the meaning of the theme of Law Day, 1968—"Only a lawful society can build a better society."

I commend all those members of the bar, the bench and the law enforcement system who work to improve the performance of this system—to make it more just, more effective, and more responsive to our people's needs.

America is grateful to them for their efforts to improve and extend legal services to the poor; to streamline the machinery of our courts; and to defend our society against crime and lawlessness.

I call upon every citizen to assist these efforts in his own community. I deem it the duty of each man and woman to honor the law, and to work within it and through it for civil order and social justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby request the observance of Wednesday, May 1, 1968, as Law Day in the United States of America.

I commend the organized bar for fostering the annual observance of Law Day. I urge each citizen to join in that observance by making a personal commitment

— to obey the law
— to respect the rights of others
— to aid law-enforcement officers
— to uphold the judgments of the courts.

As requested by the Congress, I suggest that our people observe Law Day with appropriate ceremonies and observances, through public bodies and private organizations, in schools and other suitable places; and I call upon public officials to display the nation's flag on public buildings on that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.

Proclamation 3829

AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The history of the United States is not a record of blind forces sweeping human beings relentlessly along to an unknown destiny. It is the story of countless individuals whose success and sacrifice converted an idea into a free nation.
The heritage of liberty we enjoy was brought by men and women who dared the unknown, who tamed the wilderness, and gave their lives on fields of battle.

We honor them by remembering their deeds—and by telling their story to each succeeding generation.

The study of American history reveals the experience of shared endeavor, hardship, joy, and triumph which binds us together as a nation. Understanding that experience can give us the wisdom and courage to meet our present trials—and unite us in the face of tomorrow's challenges.

In recognition of this, the Congress by a joint resolution approved November 28, 1967, has designated February 1968 as American History Month and has requested the President to issue a proclamation inviting the people of the United States to observe that month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, invite the people of the United States to observe February 1968 as American History Month in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, this thirteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.

Proclamation 3830

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

When our Nation was very young, a man wrested a living from the land as best he could. His tools were primitive, his productivity low. He was fortunate if he could feed his family and have a little left over to sell.

Today the technological revolution has made the American farmer food supplier to the world. His produce feeds his family, his neighbors, his countrymen, and thousands abroad. Yet that same revolution has brought unforeseen dangers. Modern farming is a complex and highly skilled profession. It is also a hazardous one.

Agriculture currently ranks third among our industries in accidental death rate. Thousands of farm residents are killed every year in accidents. More than 700,000 others are disabled. The cost to the Nation in dollars is almost $2 billion. The cost in anguish is incalculable.

This shameful waste must stop. It will stop when safety has become the conscious concern of all who work to produce America's great agricultural abundance.