

SEP 13 1949

## STATE OF MINNESOTA

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

*Walter D. Youngdahl*  
Secretary of State

## A Proclamation for "Fire Prevention Week in Minnesota"

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has designated the week, beginning October 9, as Fire Prevention Week; and

WHEREAS, the tragic loss of life and property through fire has been steadily increasing in the nation since 1942 and last year approximately 11,000 persons were killed, thousands were injured and over \$711,000,000 worth of property destroyed by this means; and

WHEREAS, fire is the leading cause at present of accidental death for children less than five years old, and more than 2000 of these small and usually helpless youngsters lose their lives by fire annually in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota is wasting human and material resources in fires that could be prevented; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota fires last year took 120 lives, injured 200, caused over \$11,000,000 in property damage, and inflicted other losses difficult to estimate; and

WHEREAS, extensive research into the cause of fires proves that most of these catastrophes can be attributed to only one factor--human carelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Conference on Fire Prevention provides an organization working to develop a coordinated program of state-wide action to prevent fires and must have the wholehearted cooperation of all public authorities, private agencies and citizens;

BEY, WHEREFORE, I, LUTHER E. YOUNGDAHL, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of October 9 to 15, 1949, as

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IN MINNESOTA

and call upon every citizen to assume his individual responsibility in eliminating all possible causes of fire in the home and business, and I invite all local governments, business and labor organizations, the churches and schools, civic groups and various agencies of the press and radio to cooperate fully in the observance of the week; and I direct that the appropriate agencies of State Government likewise assist in arousing the public to the growing threat of fire.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this thirteenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-nine and of the state, the ninety-second.

ASSENT:

*Walter D. Youngdahl*  
Secretary of State*Luther E. Youngdahl*  
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