

STATE OF MINNESOTA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

PROCLAMATION .

On the morning of the nineteenth day of April, 1775, on the village green at Lexington, sixteen men, to whom liberty was dearer than life, lay dead or wounded, shot down by soldiers representing a tyrannical government, because they opposed the march of tyranny. This was the beginning of the war for American independence. No day can be a more fitting one on which the American people should come together for the purpose of holding patriotic meetings, of calling attention to the necessity of securing additional recruits and of coming to a full realization of the fact that we, today, are involved in the greatest conflict of history.

We can no longer discuss the advisability of getting into war for, regardless of the conflicting opinions prior to the declaration of congress, we are now at war. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that as many as can possibly do so join the National Guard immediately and it is hereby urged that on Thursday, April nineteenth, the one hundred and forty-second anniversary of the Battle of Lexington, especial efforts be made for such purpose and that all of our people proceed at once in cooperation with a state public safety commission to use every means possible to defend our common country, protect the lives of our citizens and to safe-guard our homes and our families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed and have hereunto set my hand at the Capitol in the City of St. Paul this 13th day of April, 1917.

J. M. Ferguson
Governor.

Attest:

Julius A. Schmitt
Secretary of State.

1754

