

STATE OF MINNESOTA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ST. PAUL

P R O C L A M A T I O N .

From the time the snow leaves the ground in the spring, until it again covers the ground in early winter, forest fires constitute a serious menace to our forest resources, and to the settlers in the timbered area.

Nearly one thousand people have been burned to death by forest fires in Minnesota. Counting also the grief to survivors, the broken families, the blasted hopes, the discouraging effect on prospective settlers, the loss of opportunities for labor, it is easily seen that forest fire prevention is one of our state's greatest problems.

The property loss in our state in the last thirty years has averaged \$2,000,000 per year. This makes no allowance for the potential value of young, growing timber, which is more serious than the timber actually destroyed. Forest fires kill valuable wild game, destroy beautiful lake shore scenery, retard agricultural development and discourage reforestation.

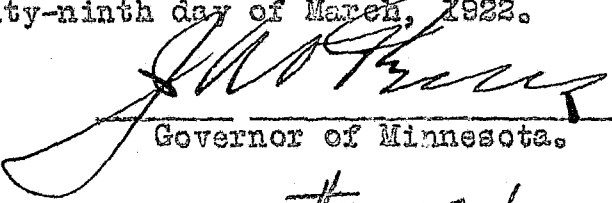
We are spending millions for outside timber which we can just as well produce in Minnesota, with proper forest protection and propagation. Nearly all forest fires are caused by human agencies, most of them by carelessness. With properly supported forest service, much can be done in preventing and fighting fires. But there can be no security until all persons in our woods, settlers, campers, hunters, railroad men and lumbermen, are thoroughly impressed with the necessity for the utmost caution in handling fires, and the danger in leaving fires unquenched or in setting fires which may get beyond control. This can be accomplished partly by legislation and law enforcement, but more by education.

Spring being an appropriate time to make plans for fire prevention during the coming season, I, J.A. O. Preus, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby designate the week of April 16th to 22d, as

FOREST PROTECTION WEEK,

and urge private citizens, public officials, newspapers and our schools to co-operate in spreading information concerning the need of conserving our timber resources, protecting our settlers and giving encouragement to every industry in our timber and out-aver regions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed hereto this twenty-ninth day of March, 1922.


Governor of Minnesota.


Secretary of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED

MAR 30 1922

Wm. A. Johnson
Secretary of State