## STATE OF MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT ST. PAUL

## PROCLANATION

Year by year, the destruction of property by fire in America has been mounting until the total annual loss now is about \$485,000,000. This means a waste each day of an average of \$1,370,000 of resources which we can ill afford to lose.

In our own state, in a period of five years, the fire waste reached a total of nearly \$42,000,000. We say and hear much of a shortage of houses, yet we calmly permit the destruction by fire of property equal in value to 8,374 five thousand dollar homes.

Worse than the destruction of valuable property is the toll of human life through fire. The average number of persons burned to death each day in the United States is stated to be forty-eight.

Nearly all these fires could be prevented, if greater care were taken in the construction of buildings, if rubbish and litter were removed from homes and places of business, if children and grown people were thoroughly educated in the handling of fire and taught the importance of extreme carefulness.

NOW THEREFORE, I, J. A. O. Preus, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby designate the week of October 2 to 9, 1922, as

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK.

City officials, civic and commercial organizations, school officers and teachers, are hereby requested and urged to arrange meetings and exercises for the study of fire prevention problems, and for impressing upon the public the seriousness of the waste caused by fire -

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and the need of the utmost care protecting life and property from damage. Editors and public speakers are requested to call special attention to this subject during that week. Our fire waste is already too large; we cannot permit it to increase. By united effort we can reduce it from year to year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Great Seal of the State this twentieth day of September, 1922.

GOVERNOR OF MINNESOTA.

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Attest:

SECRETARY OF STATE.

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EXECUTION OF STREET

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Secretary of State