

STATE OF MINNESOTA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ST. PAUL
PROCLAMATION

Three hundred years ago the Pilgrim Fathers set aside a day for public thanksgiving for an abundant harvest and material welfare. In 1789 Washington proclaimed a day of thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness. In 1795 Washington issued another proclamation in thanksgiving for the final treaty of peace with England. President Madison recommended a day of thanksgiving for peace in 1815. President Lincoln several times asked the people to give thanks to the Almighty for the victories of the Union armies and since his proclamation of 1864, the day has been observed as an annual national holiday.

In conformity to law and custom, I, J. A. O. Preus, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby designate Thursday, November 30, as Thanksgiving Day and urge its observance by all the people of the state.

Our first thought, as we assemble annually for Thanksgiving, is usually the same as that of the Pilgrim Fathers, to voice our gratitude for our material blessings. It is entirely fitting that we do so this year, for although many residents of Minnesota have not enjoyed the same degree of prosperity as in some past years, we are infinitely better off than the people of the war-torn countries of Europe or the vast regions of the Old World, where want, famine and pestilence are causing intense suffering and death of thousands.

But let us also observe the spirit of the first national Thanksgiving Day, proclaimed by Washington. Let us give thanks that the government then established still lives, and that it is this government which has made possible for us the religious freedom, the educational advantages and the material prosperity which we enjoy. Let us give thanks also, as Madison and Lincoln did, that

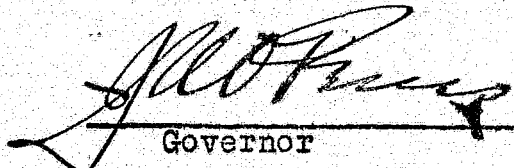
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in all conflicts for the preservation of this government, we have been successful.

But let our day of thanksgiving also be a day of prayer, prayer that our political and religious freedom may never be lessened, prayer that the people of our country may continue in spiritual growth, and prayer that our material bounties may increase in so far as they contribute to the happiness and welfare of the people. Let us also give evidence of our thankfulness by determining to make the blessings we enjoy a means of helping and serving all humanity. Let us consecrate ourselves to work for permanent peace, liberty, prosperity and good will throughout the world.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed hereto this fifteenth day of November, A. D. 1922.


Governor

ATTEST:

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Secretary of State.

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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