STATE OF MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT ST. PAUL

PROCLAMATION.

Independence Day, July Fourth, has become so firmly established as our most important secular holiday that to urge its observance is superfluous. This year, however, there is one phase of the celebration to which I wish to invite the special attention of the people of our state.

Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, has this year passed into the possession of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation. In this residence Thomas Jefferson did much of the studying which enabled him to write that immortal document, the Declaration of Independence, and there he spent his declining years and died on July 4, 1826. It is to be preserved forever as a public shrine. In its historic importance it will be second only to Mount Vernon.

There is still a considerable sum neighting clear Monticello of debt and provide for its maintenance. Minnesota should do its share in perpetuating the memory of this illustrious statesman and patriot and preserving his homestead as an inspiration to future generations. The Minnesota Commission, of which Thomas Jefferson McDermott is chairman, is anxious to complete its work. What is especially desired is a large number of small contributions. To give something to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Fund is an excellent way to show our appreciation of what the Declaration of Independence and the American government mean to us.

> In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed herto this 11th day of June, 1924.

ATTEST:

MAS

Governor

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