STATE OF MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT SAINT PAUL

MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION

As Memorial Day approaches we should be mindful that peace has its heroes no less than war. War has long monopolized the historic scene. Marching men, flying flags and banners, bands playing martial music have too long absorbed attention and occupied the forefront of history.

In its one hundred and fifty-nine years of existence, this Country has had six major wars and has resorted to arms on ninety-four other occasions. Beneath each of these conflicts lie the graves of dauntless dead. If these heroes who knew weary marches, the tragedy of gory fields, of intolerable pain and anguish could speak, we believe their first concern would be to have war ended and peace made more secure in the world.

A generation whose existence is frustrated and made tragic in the aftermath of one of the largest and most deadly wars of history does not need to be told the dreadful cost of armed conflict which in the end brings universal defeat and leaves both victor and vanquished prostrate. It is high time that war be no longer idealized. It is time that war be shorn of its glamour and known for what it is — the worst enemy of mankind and of human welfare.

In the vision of the new history it is now seen that progress has rarely issued out of war. Armed conflict always takes its cruel toll, and generally results in retrogression and in degeneration. Human progress blossoms from the fields of peace and is nurtured best by the orderly processes of industry, trade, science and education.

The heroes of peace are many, although for the most part their services are unheralded and unsung. The so-called common men who go down into the deep mines, dig sewers, lay roads and sidewalks, or rivet steel beams together high in air, the so-called common men who man our factories, direct the engines and the dynamos, the men who till the fields, labor in our laboratories and seek to know the secrets of

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science, are heroes -- every one. The women too who maintain homes, rear families, work in shops, offices and factories, and take their places as intelligent, reliable citizens in the modern world, are heroines.

That the heroes of peace may be acclaimed as are the heroes of war, I, Floyd B. Olson, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby designate

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1935

as

MEMORIAL DAY.

Upon this day let us remember and honor not only heroic soldiers and sailors, but heroic toilers, scientists, educators, inventors, poets, artists, writers, philanthropists and statesmen. Let us visit not only the memorials and final resting places of national heroes but of their mothers, fathers and friends. Upon this sacred day let us pay homage to the heroes of peace as well as to those of war. Above all, upon this day let every citizen make his thoughts pilgrims to the shrine of peace, to the end that war may no more take its toll of human life, nor destroy civilization itself.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereto affixed this 20th day of May, 1935.

Governor of Minnesota

Attest:

Secretary of State

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