

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
SAINT PAUL



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

The youth of our nation, alive to the dangers of another World War, have designated April 22nd as PEACE DAY. On that day the youth of our country will assemble-- from the farm, the factory, the schools, the colleges -- to tell their elders of the stupidity of the mad race for armaments and to protest against a policy which is certain to lead to wholesale international slaughter.

In one European country we are now witnessing what they call a civil war, but which in reality contains all the elements of international conflict. A heroic people is struggling against foreign invaders to preserve its democratic right of self-determination, while fighting side by side with them are also volunteers from foreign lands. The statesmen of Europe are looking on nervously, not knowing when the spark will set the entire world aflame.

And while this war is being waged with dreadful fury and with appalling butchery, the bombing of exposed cities, slaughter of civilian populations, killing of women, children, and old men, the only solution which the statesmen can find is producing more armaments, more bombs, more airplanes, more poison gas, more and bigger cannon, more machine guns, more battleships, more effective engines of destruction. Fear has supplanted reason -- and the nations are preparing to plunge headlong into the maelstrom which they believe inevitable. Even the United States, whose shores are safe from foreign invasion, has joined the race for more armaments.

But youth, which will be called upon to do the fighting and shed the blood, for what they know not, is neither so blind nor so pessimistic as the statesman. They will not accept war as inevitable. Youth believes that nations can come to their senses, and that peoples can be aroused to dispense with the services of rulers and dictators who believe that the battlefield is the road to national greatness and national glory.

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I subscribe fully to the aims and objectives of PEACE DAY. The people as a whole should join this enlightened movement of our young people, and direct their thoughts and energies to an analysis of the causes of warfare, its futility, and the means of its prevention. I hope that not only will peace be discussed on our campuses and wherever young people gather, but that the entire week will be devoted in our schools to a study of the problem, and sermons on peace will be delivered from all our pulpits on Sunday, April 18th.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Elmer A. Benson, Governor of Minnesota, proclaim

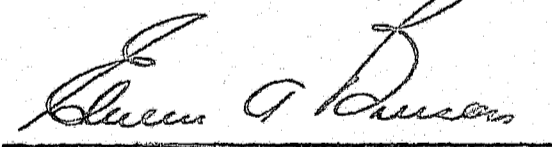
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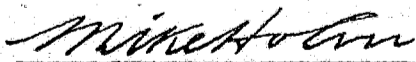
PEACE DAY

and recommend that the day be celebrated with proper exercises and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed this 7th day of April, 1937.

  
Governor of Minnesota

Attest:

  
Secretary of State

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STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FINED  
APR 8 - 1937

*W. H. ...*