STATE OF MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT SAINT PAUL



PROCLAMATION

Each year it has been the custom to hold brief memorial services for the late Floyd B. Olson on the Sunday nearest the anniversary of his death two years ago.

This year, that day will be next Sunday, August 21.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Elmer A. Benson, Governor of Minnesota, hereby proclaim that date as FLOYD B. OLSON MEMORIAL DAY. I urge that wherever friends or admirers of the late governor are gathered on that day, they devote a portion of it to brief, simple, and appropriate memorial exercises.

By happy coincidence, America is this week celebrating the third anniversary of President Roosevelt's signing of the national Social Security Act. This Act provided for the federal government to co-operate with the forty-eight state governments in a national attack upon the problem of social security through programs of old age assistance, unemployment compensation, aid to dependent children, and other public welfare measures.

It would therefore be highly fitting if this year the Olson memorial services stressed the theme of social security, to the search for which the late governor brought such pioneer leadership and indomitable courage.

By a most tragic coincidence, this Olson anniversary also falls in a period when the threat of another world war is more intense than at any time since August of 1914. It would therefore be highly fitting if the Olson memorial services this year were used as an occasion to re-affirm our opposition to American participation in another imperialist war, and to voice our repudiation of war as a cure for depression.

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That would be a living remembrance of the late Floyd B. Olson, who was never afraid of fighting and who loved the common soldier and fought for the veterans' rights, but who was unalterably opposed to solving the world's economic problems by means of armaments and wars. For he knew that we cannot build social security by means of the destruction and insecurity of war, and we cannot cement the peoples of the earth with blood.

Let us use the occasion of this anniversary to rededicate ourselves to the search for peace and social security.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at St.Paul, this 16th day of August, 1938.

Governor of Minne cote

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Attest:

Secretary of State

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