

A MESSAGE

TO THE CITIZENS OF CONNECTICUT FROM GOVERNOR MARCUS H. HOLCOMB



On April 26, 1917, under power vested in me by Chapter 44 of the Public Acts of 1917, I appointed the Connecticut State Council of Defense by proclamation, "with me and under my direction to conduct the prosecution of the war so far as concerns this state and with power to co-operate with other states and with the Federal Government."

For more than six months this Council has been performing the tasks for which it was organized. It was clearly the intention of the Federal Government when it asked me to appoint this Council, and it was my intention in carrying out that request, that the Connecticut State Council of Defense should have full supervision over Connecticut's part in the civilian activities called for by the prosecution of the war.

Multiplicity of organizations attempting to do the same thing results in duplication and waste. If our state is to perform its part to its fullest efficiency, there must be no waste, and, therefore, no duplication.

I urgently desire that the citizens of Connecticut co-operate fully with the Connecticut State Council of Defense and undertake no war activity without consulting the Council, which has its offices in the State Capitol, Hartford. Every ounce of power that there is in our state must be devoted to the task of winning the war; every bit of individual effort to help America's cause is welcomed and appreciated by your Governor. It is to secure the greatest power from the effort expended that I ask the people of our state to consult the Connecticut State Council of Defense before they inaugurate any new effort, in order that the whole organization of the Council may be made available to every desirable undertaking and that there may be no duplication of effort and wasted energy.

I make this appeal to the people of Connecticut, feeling certain that they will see the importance of this call to their patriotism, and will respond to a request which is intended to keep Connecticut a leader among the states in the efficiency and value to the Government of her response to the Nation's call for service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "M. H. Holcomb".

Governor.