

4-MINUTE MEN-4

HEADQUARTERS:
LEWIS BUILDING
PORTLAND, OREGON

PORTLAND, OREGON.

IMPORTANT and IMMEDIATE

To All Local Chairmen and Four-Minute Men of Oregon:

The following message was received by wire late Thursday evening from the National Director of Four-Minute Men, Mr. William McCormick Blair, with instructions that it must be read before every possible gathering on July 13th and 14th, especially in churches, by all Clergymen, and in theatres by the Four Minute Men:-

"Liberty has two birthdays, one in the new world and one in the old. One is marked by the anniversary of our Declaration of Independence on July Fourth, Seventeen Seventy Six; it is the birthday of a nation in the new western world, dedicated to the proposition that all men are created free and equal; its cradle was Independence Hall in Philadelphia. That nation has become a great people which has gathered in its ideals the self governing nations of the two Americas and now fights for the preservation of its life, that 'Governments of the people, for the people, and by the people, shall not perish from the face of the earth.'

"The second cradle of Liberty was amid the ruins of the Bastille in Paris on July Fourteenth, Seventeen Eighty Nine. The people of Paris destroyed this great Mediaeval prison, the emblem to them of tyranny and oppression and autocratic government. They lighted the torch of Liberty at its smoldering ruins and sent their armies forth from the first great European republic to carry this torch into a Europe governed by absolutism and cursed with privilege and inequality and injustice.

"These two Great Republics are children of the same spirit. Their essential union from the days of Lafayette and Washington to the days of Wilson and Poincare, of Pershing and Foch, has been unbroken. French blood and treasure were given so that we might found the first great experiment of self government. America today sends her millions in men and her billions in gold that the home of Joan of Arc and the tomb of Lafayette may remain inviolate. France stands erect today, unconquered and unconquerable. America stands beside her; our boys in khaki shoulder to shoulder with the horizon blue of France's brave men. Our Stars and Stripes over the trenches beside the Tricolor of France proclaim to the military masters of Germany a union which shall carry the cause of Democracy to triumph, and form the basis of greater world federation in the days of peace.

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"Today, we ask of France nothing but the privilege of repaying the debt we owe. We too celebrate the fall of the Bastille, the first stronghold of absolutism to go down before the rising power of freemen. We shall stand beside her till the last stronghold of autocracy falls in ruins about the Hohenzollern dynasty. You, Sister Republic, are giving everything, keeping only the imperishable hope - that spirit of self sacrifice for things greater than the lives of men and nations, which is the crown and glory of France through all the ages -- accept from America on the one hundred and twenty ninth anniversary of your dedication to self government, the tribute not of our sentiment alone, but of ourselves. The voice of America proclaims today with one accord, 'Long Live - Long Live France.'"

Following the reading of the above message, the Four-Minute Men are to present the following resolution, after the reading of which those in favor should be called upon to stand and say "Aye" and remain standing during the playing or singing, if possible, of one verse of the Marseillaise:

"Resolved that the Fourteenth of July message you have just heard be the sentiment of America's millions; that it be delivered through Four-Minute Men of the Committee on Public Information to the French Ambassador for transmission to the people of France, and that this audience or congregation with thousands of others this day or evening, salute and honor our Noble Ally, the Republic of France."

After the playing or singing of the Marseillaise, announcement should be made of the following information:

Arrangements have been made with the French Embassy to transmit America's message to the French people. Ambassador Jusserand, when informed of this tribute to his people, was greatly affected. He has asked Count de Chambrun, great grandson of Lafayette, to translate the message for transmission to the French people.