

THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY ARMISTICE DAY CELEBRATION

NOVEMBER 11, 1942

REDEDICATION TO SERVICE



AMERICANISM

Holdings - Armistice Day

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ARMISTICE DAY

November 11, 1942.

One of the greatest anniversaries in American history and in the history of the world, Armistice Day, carries a new meaning for 1942. The following statement recently issued by James F. O'Neil, chairman of the National Americanism Commission, expresses the emphasis which should be placed on Armistice Day this year:

"With America at war and our sons engaged in the death grip on far-flung battlefields, Armistice Day, 1942, carries a somber emphasis to all World War I veterans and should be reverently observed as a deeply patriotic occasion in every city, hamlet and home of the nation. It should be dedicated to the hallowed memory of our war dead; to a complete rededication of the living to the grave task before us.

"Through patriotic parades, addresses, pageants, displays and other means of soulful expression, the observance of Armistice Day, 1942, should be the most impressive in history."

Before December 7, 1941, Armistice Day was a day of celebration; since that fateful day, Armistice Day becomes an occasion for holding the usual services in honor of our departed comrades of World War I, who made the supreme sacrifice. It is an occasion for holding ceremonial services for those who have now made the supreme sacrifice in World War II; it is a day which should be filled with day-long ceremonies and patriotic programs, even extending into the evening hours, fitting to the grave aspects of the war program.

SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

I. ARMISTICE DAY PROGRAM OUTLINE

By Americanism Commission

- 7:00 A. M. Sunrise gun (can be fired with anvils in case no cannon is available).
- 8:15 A. M. First call (bugle or parade formation).
- 8:30 A. M. Assembly (bugle call for parade formation).
- 8:45 A. M. Starting gun or bomb for parade.
- 9:45 A. M. Arrival of parade elements at the assembly point.
- 9:50 A. M. Salute of one gun; band, "Star-Spangled Banner."
- 10:00 A. M. Invocation.
- 10:05 A. M. Music by band, soloist or chorus.
- 10:10 A. M. Reading of Governor's or Mayor's proclamation on Armistice Day.
- 10:15 A. M. Remarks by Post Commander or designated person.
- 10:20 A. M. Music by soloist or chorus.
- 10:25 A. M. Roll call of World War I dead of community by Post Adjutant of
The American Legion.
- Roll call of World War II dead of the community by Post Adjutant of
The American Legion.
- Ceremonies; presentation of service flag, plaque, or roll of men
serving in armed forces; presentation and dedication of U. S. Flag
in honor of members of community in service; tribute to men and
women of community on duty with Armed Forces of World War II.
- 10:45 A. M. Address by Legion speaker of day (caution must be used not to permit
this speaker to utilize more than fifteen minutes if this time sched-
ule is used).

11:00 A. M. Salute of three guns; bugle call, "Taps," with echo, if possible (in larger cities several calls may be used in various sections).
Thirty seconds of silent prayer for World War I and World War II dead. All business ceases.

11:10 A. M. Introduction of guest speaker of the day.

11:15 A. M. Address by guest speaker of the day.

11:55 A. M. "America" - by audience.

12:00 Noon Pledge to Flag.

Adjournment.

During the noon hour a community dinner, picnic, barbecue, army mess, or other style of "feed" may be served, or Posts may serve dinner in large hall.

1:30 P. M. Afternoon program opened by firing of aerial bomb.

1:40 P. M. Competitive drill by S. A. L. Squadrons, Boy Scout troops, R. O. T. C. units, fraternal drill teams, Victory Corps units, and others.

Community-wide organized bond sale campaign.

Football game or other sports program.

- 6:00 P. M.
1. Banquet honoring Sons of The American Legion and Legionnaires now in service, and all service men of World War II who are home on leave and are present as guests at the banquet.
 2. Banquet for all bond campaign captains, or for all members of community spending day on bond sale campaign.

II. ARMISTICE DAY ACTIVITIES AND CEREMONIES.

Adopted by Post No. 9, Spokane, Washington.

This year we are holding our usual cemetery services in honor of our departed comrades of World War I, as well as those of World War II, who have made the supreme sacrifice. This is the only part of our program which is similar to those held in the past. These services will end promptly at 11:00 A. M.

The rest of our day's activities will be devoted exclusively to the sale of war bonds. We are securing from the city permission for the closing of certain streets for one block in five different locations in the city. Each of these locations will have a platform equipped with public address system, a master of ceremonies and entertainment fitting to the war program.

Promptly at 12:00 o'clock two bombs will be fired, if permission can be obtained from the military authorities, the first bomb containing an American Flag, the second the Post Colors of The American Legion. Upon the firing of the second bomb, a high school band stationed at each one of these locations will play the "Star Spangled Banner." At the completion of the National Anthem, the master of ceremonies will take over and carry on the program which he has outlined, such program to be interspersed with the playing of "Any Bonds Today" and "Marching Along Together," the primary purpose being for the sale of war bonds and war savings stamps.

Committees from the various Veterans' organizations and their Auxiliaries will pass through the crowd, selling war savings stamps and receiving subscriptions for war bonds. This program will last in each location for one hour, and we have set our goal for the sale of at least \$300,000.00 worth of bonds and stamps.

In one of these locations in the evening a street dance will be given, and the effort for the sale of bonds and stamps continued.

The night before Armistice Day, publicity will break in which it will be stated that Spokane Post No. 9 will give to each man who voluntarily enlists in any branch of the military service on Armistice Day \$5.00 in war savings stamps. If the necessary arrangements can be worked out with the various recruiting stations, these will be presented to the volunteers some time during the street dance program.

Our Post is underwriting the expenses which we estimate will be approximately \$1,000.00, and in addition we will purchase for the Post anywhere from twelve to fifteen thousand dollars worth of war bonds.

In the event that we should have inclement weather to such an extent that it would eliminate an outdoor program, we, of course, will have to reduce the extent of our program and hold it indoors in the State Armory or one of the large theatres.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

American Education Week, which is a very definite part of the national Americanism program of The American Legion occurs each year during the week of Armistice Day. The dates for the 1942 observance are November 8 to November 14. The topic for the week this year is "Education for Free Men." The purpose is to focus public attention upon the schools of America.

The office of the National Americanism Commission has mailed to each Department Adjutant of The American Legion a supply of the 1942 American Education Week leaflets. Posts are requested to write their Department Adjutant for copies of the leaflet.