

## **Defense Council in Each District**

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A council of defense for every school district in the entire state, a loyalty pledge signed by every man and woman in the state, the utilization of all our resources and energy in the prosecution of the war, proof that Oklahoma is 100 per cent patriotic – these are the objects sought by the State Council of Defense, which has called meetings for this purpose on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> in every county seat in Oklahoma. The loyalty pledge is as follows:

### *My Loyalty Pledge*

*I hereby pledge renewed allegiance to my Flay and to the Republic for which it stands. I pledge myself as a true, loyal American to be active in the support of my government in all its plans and efforts.*

*I recognize the danger that arises from the slacker who opposes the country. I realize that every breeder of sedition is as great a menace to our homes and freedom as are our enemies across the seas. I, therefore, pledge myself to report to the Chairman of my School District of Defense or to my County Defense Chairman any disloyal act or utterance that I may know of.*

*I will help stamp out the enemies at home, whose every act or word means more American graves in France.*

The organization meetings on February 1<sup>st</sup> will be under the general auspices of the State Council of Defense and under the immediate direction of the County Council.

Any patriotic resident of any school district in the state may become a member of the district organization by signing the pledge card with the loyalty pledge given above.

### *Widespread Distribution*

Under the direction of State Council of Defense 60,000 copies of the constitution for these school districts councils have been printed and are ready for distribution. Over 200,000 pledge cards have been prepared. More will soon be ready. It is aimed to reach all. This is not France's war, not England's nor Canada's. It is Oklahoma's war.

It is to bring home this knowledge, the appreciation of this terrible national emergency to every man and woman in Oklahoma that these school district councils will be organized.