

On September 15, 1917, about 4 months after America entered WWI, President Woodrow Wilson released the following message to all schooled aged children. Would it have motivated you to do your part?

*“To the school children of the United States:*

*“A proclamation: The President of the United States is also president of the American Red Cross. It is from these offices joined in one that I write you a word of greeting at this time when so many of you are beginning the school year.*

*“The American Red Cross has just prepared a junior membership with school activities, in which every pupil in the United States can find a chance to serve our country. The school is the natural center of your life. Through it you can best work in the great cause of freedom to which we have all pledged ourselves.*

*“Our junior Red Cross will bring to you opportunities of service to your community and to other communities all over the world, and guide your service with high and religious ideals. It will teach you how to save in order that suffering children elsewhere may have the chance to live. It will teach you how to prepare some of the supplies which wounded soldiers and homeless families lack. It will send to you, through the Red Cross bulletins, the thrilling stories of relief and rescue. And, best of all, more perfectly than through any of your other school lessons, you will learn by doing those kind things, under your teachers' direction, to be the future good citizens of this great country which we all love.*

*“And I commend to all school teachers in the country the simple plan which the American Red Cross has worked out to provide for your co-operation, knowing as I do that school children will give their best service under the direct guidance and instruction of their teachers. Is not this perhaps the chance for which you have been looking to give your time and efforts in some measure to meet our national needs?”*

*“WOODROW WILSON, President.”*

