

The Daughters of the American Revolution

Paul M. Hebert

Date: 1937-01-01

Repository Citation

Daughters of the American Revolution, circa 1937. Paul M. Hebert Speech Files, Archival Collection LLA0002, Paul M. Hebert Law Center Collection, Paul M. Hebert Law Center Library, Baton Rouge, La.

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and Law Center History at LSU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Paul M. Hebert Speeches by an authorized administrator of LSU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact kayla.reed@law.lsu.edu.

①

Mrs. _____ & _____, distinguished
guests, members of the
Daughters of the Am. Revolu-
tion -

It is entirely fitting and proper that a patriotic organization of women, such as the D.A.R., should take the leadership in focusing attention upon the sesqui-centennial celebration of the formation of the Constitution of the United States, and congratulations are certainly due today to the Baton Rouge chapter, because I believe that this Washington dinner and the ceremonies that you have planned to follow it will mark the first Baton Rouge program in a long calendar of events which will be held in recognition and observance of the historic fact of the formation of the Constitution.

② The Daughters of the American Revolution since its organization in 1890, have steadfastly and successfully carried out the high ideals and objects expressed in their charter - those ideals and objects, as you all know, are: to perpetuate the memory of the spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence; to promote institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge; to cherish, maintain, and extend the institution of American freedom; to foster true patriotism and love of country; and to aid in securing for mankind all of the blessings of liberty.

In these days of social, economic and political unrest, there is much comfort to Americans in thinking back over the 150 years through which our Constitution -

"the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man" has endured. Through previous turmoils, our Constitution has always been the bedrock upon which the principles of American freedom and American democracy have been anchored. With the enlightened support of the hundred million Americans who have faith in the American way of life - the principles expressed in that immortal document, purchased with the blood of American patriots and achieved under the leadership of Washington - that Constitution will continue through any future tempests that may beset our paths.

With the assistance of our genial and scholarly founder of "the Live Oak Society", Dr. Stephens, and

with the cooperation of (4)
President Smith, you have
planned to plant a memorial
avenue of trees along Dalrym-
ple Drive leading to the
University. To me, there is
something quite symbolic of
the Constitution in the oak.
Its broad spreading branches
signify the adaptability of
the Constitution to the needs
of different times and
different conditions. The
strength and durability of the
oak and its great longevity
are characteristics which the
Fathers sought to build within
the framework of our Constitu-
tion. And, just as the oak is
peculiarly insusceptible to
the decaying influence of
moisture - so may our Constitu-
tion with the united support
of all Americans and with the
support that it received from
patriotic groups of women such

as are gathered here today -
may that Constitution like
a sturdy oak successfully
resist all attacks and pernicious
influences that might
seek to undermine the basic
principles of American
liberty.

In conclusion, I wish to
say that it is a particular
pleasure to meet with you on
this occasion and I wish to
add my word to what Dr. Smith
has already said in assuring
you that the Louisiana State
University is always anxious,
willing and ready to
cooperate with the Daughters
of the American Revolution
in their every endeavor.