

*Mr. President, Members of the Insurance Bar,  
Ladies and Gentlemen—*

It is an honor to have been invited to address you.

Recognizing the importance of the International Association of Insurance Counsel and the interest of its members in the vital problems of the day, I am conscious of the privilege you are affording to me.

You have been specially chosen for professional service, as counselors at law, by Institutions which sell insurance against loss of life or limb, and against loss by conflagration.

It is, therefore, appropriate that I should have accepted as my subject the greatest of all policies of insurance, which, itself, was achieved by voluntary sacrifice of life and limb; indeed, by Revolution.

My subject is the Constitution of the United States, with special reference to the power and duty of the United States Supreme Court. It is a policy of insurance written by the people of a new Federation to insure to themselves, and to their Posterity, Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

The opening words of the Constitution are explicit with the purposes of the entire instrument: