

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

SPEECH DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP OF ARGENTINA Dr. Hipólito J. Paz
Fourth of July, 1950 Anniversary of the Independence
of the United States of America

In reverence we are today here sharing in spiritual communion, bread and wine in order to commemorate the anniversary of the independence of the United States of America.

This event implies for the peoples of this continent and for all of those of the Western World, a ceremony that, on other dates and with identical symbolism, is repeated on the appropriate day by each country of America. Because all of the sovereign nations and all of the free peoples base their political guarantees, the organization of their democratic institutions and the conduct of their public affairs on the original source found in the Declaration of Rights of Virginia.

We are celebrating today at one of the altars of the American home that we have in common the advent of a new sense of the community of peoples, of the universal rule of law and order over force and arbitrariness to fit the march of history to the designs of Providence.

I understand by this rule of legality in human relations, the subordination of private interests to the public good, and even, the prosperity and the power of nations, to the higher principles of justice.

Because within the rules that the United States have sanctioned for their national existence, for the purpose of regulating their domestic life and limiting the jurisdiction of their activities, are also derived the valid rules for the international order. In effect, the Declaration of Virginia consecrates, neither more or less, the union of a confederation of states which prefigures a functional unity of a higher type. It affirms, the strength in the law, the wealth in honest effort and the joint but not ambiguous service of the fruits of intelligence for culture and the fruit of the hands for civilization. Well defined and yet distinct; with regard to civilization it means uniformity of means or of technique while with regard to culture on the other hand, an infinite diversity of theme in a unity of mode or styles.

The supreme gift to mankind must be searched and obtained in accordance with those wise rules established in peacetime under the protection of liberty and conforming with everything that is rational and equitable. This is a perfect way of conjugating what belongs to God and what belongs to Caesar.

The Argentine Republic has the satisfaction of assuring with the reality of facts that those same principles and purposes cover its ~~xxx~~ history; that ~~xx~~ they inspired its will to ~~xx~~ grow and to improve; that besides, those principles found in the domestic life are also universal within the Christianity we call Western civilization. Western civilization which includes the greatest equilibrium of individual and social values commented on by General Peron.

Each one of the countries that go to make up the American community of nations and peoples, had and still have their ~~xxxxxxx~~ mouthpieces and guides of the same kind. Inevitably when thinking of Washington, the names of San Martín, Bolívar and the other liberators come to our minds, and when remembering Lincoln, Sarmiento, Martí and many other architects of democracy are recalled, for whom progress was an additional gift of justice. And it is this intimate relationship which ~~xxxxxxx~~ gives America one common historical destiny.

At the beginning of our country's history Dorrego had already derived the benefits of the institutional life of the United States of America. Sarmiento also loved and understood the merits of the nation and the people of North America and certainly was not the first nor the last in recognizing the relationship between the historical forces moulding the personalities of both countries at either end of the continental block. In his last book he denounced the dominance of those natural forces in a vision ~~x~~ -- doubtless prophetic -- of the harmonies and the conflicts ~~xxxx~~ which arise among men who settle in new lands.

Without renouncing a single one of his native qualities he obstinately proclaimed the necessity of being and remaining faithful to the spirit of the land. He brought in from North America in the first place, and later from other countries, the techniques and the procedures and the juridical forms which are a part of our way of life, without damaging the essence of his own nationality.

As a consequence, a sector of our domestic life remained free and untrammelled for all means of communications, interchange with the outside world while the rest preserved intact the things that make us what we are.

It was quite evident that he realized that the great republic of the North was initiating a new experiment in history which was that of shaping its personality, taking advantage of all its resources and directing them towards a goal of usefulness and welfare.

As a result ~~xxxx~~ there sprung from this unique experiment a form of civilization which is genuinely American, in which the Anglo-Saxon together with the qualities of the immigrant races mingled in a single national spirit, which became the base of this grandiose edifice.

Our own case is similar, and even more so that of those nations whose roots sink deep into their native soil.

You know better than I, gentlemen, that the foundation of the structure
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was built upon a profound respect for law. I will go further; it expressed the harmony of the rules of everyday life with the living substance of the written law. From this it follows that the Virginian Declaration was bound to be a solid base for that undertaking and a most pliable instrument for establishing and balancing its ulterior development. It was almost a law of nature.

But this miracle never could have taken place unless there had grown x side by side with the political concept a feeling of responsibility, a body of independent thought, untrammelled by traditional influences, for the man and the citizen. Material progress and the order resulting from the development of the nation of its innate vital forces; of being faithful to their destiny; of joining the evolution of a people ~~of~~ with the stability of its institutions.

Because each people carries out its intransferable mission and in doing this it deposits its small part of this total which we call humanity and civilization. The eternal leaven which was not possessed by the Imperial Roman Empire was granted by the village of Bethlehem .

It is precisely among those people which have not yet reached the maturity of their culture that are found the greatest stores of spiritual and cultural values. It is the duty of each of these to preserve these values from adulteration and to assist them in their development while avoiding any bruising of their basic and essential feelings. For, we must not forget, that the soul of man cannot be changed.

And yet it is so easy to coordinate spiritual action. Each country possesses an open front through which it communicates with the world and possesses also a flank, impenetrable to all foreign influences, which guards character and individuality. Through this unguarded front each country is open to those great currents of permanent human unity. In order that a community really exist a certain permanent cooperation is necessary in which the variations of historical background join without conflict to provide common functions and the benefits which derive therefrom.

Thus, the efficiency of this union of nations is a function of the intelligence which is brought to bear in coordinating their contributions to a common cause without disturbing the historical and cultural personality of each member of this union. That is to say, in the planning of the greatest common good.

There are two means ~~by~~ which this may be achieved, one is the authority of the law which provides an unshakable base for equality in international relations, and the other is the authority of economic law which prescribes an order within which the daily functions of social living may operate.

~~There exist two legal bases and these are~~ There exist two legal bases and these are linked by an arch. The first base consists of the legal statements which protect the individuality of nations, the other base is made up of the simple rules of chance and mutual interest. It is only under the principle which assures to each his own that we can fulfill the essential principle of taking from each according to his possibilities.

It is clear, gentlemen, that all evidence points to the common necessity of international cooperation and that we are now in a position to achieve the basic ideal of civilization as a coordinated enterprise.

Because it does to America and as a result of facts it becomes the area of our social destiny. But, as General Perón has said, America "is something more than a continent limited by geography, it is one body of ideas and doctrines that reaffirm the thought of liberty and union, of progress and peace".

How can it not be possible then, to find the method for establishing in a reasonable way the importance and conditions of the contributions to the common undertaking?

Thus, just as the inherent value of a symphony resides in the necessity of each instrument keeping its own tone in the polyphonic harmony of the composition, thus, each entity should conserve its autonomy within the system. This is the formula which cannot be substituted in order to achieve an organic and stable community.

These are the thoughts that come to me on this Day of America, on which 174 years ago a group of states discovered the secret that the full strength of each one of them resided in their union.

This union has grown and borne fruit. Under the protection of its institutions animated by the national spirit, the United States of America has demonstrated its capacity in the undertakings of peace, and its power in the efforts of war made on behalf of liberty.

On this anniversary and in accordance with the sentiments which I have expressed, I wish to say in the name of the President of my country, General Perón that the Republic of Argentina, signer of the Pact of the United Nation will fulfill those obligations which arise, as she has fulfilled always in the course of her glorious history, - and she will accomplish this respecting not only the cold language of the pacts which she has signed, but also respecting their spirit, without which the words are nothing but mere words.

Gentlemen, I toast the people of the United States of America.

I toast President Truman and those who aid him in carrying out his mandate to direct its destiny;

I toast President General Perón and his honorable wife, Mrs. Perón;

And that peace may exist among the men of good will.