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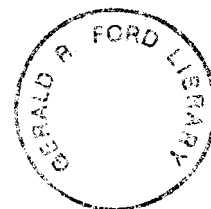
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LAW SCHOOL OF
PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
COMMENCEMENT
MAY 24, 1975

I THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR THE HONORS YOU HAVE BESTOWED UPON ME THIS DAY -- FOR THIS HONORARY DEGREE WHICH I SHALL CHERISH, FOR THE KIND WORDS BILL, THAT YOU OFFER WITH IT, AND FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK AT THIS COMMENCEMENT OF THE PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL.

THIS GRADUATION PROVIDES US WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM OUR FAITH IN OUR SYSTEM OF JUSTICE.

IT HAS BECOME FAR TOO FASHIONABLE TO BE SCORNFUL OF OUR PROFESSION. TO CONDEMN THE FAILURES OF LAWYERS IN HIGH PLACES RATHER THAN TO PRAISE THE SYSTEM WHICH CHECKED THEIR LAWLESSNESS. TO COMPLAIN THAT THERE ARE TOO MANY LAWYERS RATHER THAN TO HONOR THE TRADITION THAT MAKES OURS A GOVERNMENT OF LAWS WHICH HAS ACHIEVED SO MUCH IN COMPARISON TO THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE A TYRANNY OF MEN RULES UNCHECKED.



OURS, AFTER ALL, IS STILL THE CREATIVE SOCIETY TO WHICH THE FREE WORLD LOOKS FOR LEADERSHIP. WE REMAIN A COUNTRY OF VITALITY AND STRENGTH. WE RETAIN MORE THAN ANY OTHER NATION THE CAPACITY FOR THE KIND OF INNOVATIVE THOUGHT THAT CAN LEAD THE WORLD OUT OF ITS ECONOMIC AND MORAL RECESSION.

TODAY AS WE APPROACH THE CELEBRATION OF OUR 200TH BIRTHDAY, ENGLAND, OUR MOTHER COUNTRY, IS CONTEMPLATING A STUDY OF ITS LAWS FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING THOSE BASIC CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS OF OUR BILL OF RIGHTS WHICH HAVE PROTECTED US SINCE OUR INFANCY FROM THE FOLLY OF MEN.

IN CELEBRATION OF THIS LASTING WISDOM, I AM HONORED TO CONGRATULATE THIS GRADUATING CLASS OF THE PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WORRY ABOUT WHERE YOU WILL FIND YOUR WORK AND WHAT YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH IN THE 50 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL LIFE AHEAD OF YOU, YOU SHOULD STOP A MOMENT TO REFLECT UPON THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST 50 YEARS.



IT WAS, AFTER ALL, LESS THAN 50 YEARS AGO THAT OUR PARENTS EXPRESSED FAR MORE CONCERN FOR THE FATE OF CHARLES LINDBERGH AS HE MADE HIS FIRST HISTORIC FLIGHT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC THAN WE EXPRESSED DURING RECENT YEARS FOR OUR ASTRONAUTS WHO HAVE MADE TRIPS TO AND FROM THE MOON.

AT THE TIME OF THE LINDBERGH FLIGHT, MR. JUSTICE HOLMES GRACED OUR SUPREME COURT. HE ONCE STATED, AND I QUOTE:

"THE LAW, WHEREIN, AS IN A MAGIC MIRROR, WE SEE REFLECTED NOT ONLY OUR OWN LIVES, BUT THE LIVES OF ALL MEN THAT HAVE BEEN. WHEN I THINK OF THIS MAJESTIC THEME MY EYES DAZZLE."

WHEN REFLECTING ON WHERE WE ARE TODAY, WE CANNOT OVERLOOK THE STARTLING FACT THAT MORE SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES OF NOTE WERE MADE IN THE PAST 25 YEARS THAN IN ALL OF THE HISTORY OF MAN.



BUT, AS GREAT AS OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE BEEN, WHO CANNOT SEE THE GREAT INEQUALITIES IN THE WORLD TODAY? THE POORLY EDUCATED, POORLY FED, POORLY CLOTHED, AND POORLY HOUSED LIVE IN THE WORLD AT LARGE AND IN OUR COUNTRY IN NUMBERS FAR TOO NUMEROUS TO BE TOLERATED.

WE CAN TAKE COMFORT IN THE STRENGTH, INGENUITY AND PURPOSE THAT HAS BROUGHT SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICAL INSURANCE, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LAWS.

BUT MODERN COMMUNICATIONS BRING HOME TO US THE FACT THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ALL THAT WE HAVE DONE, ALL THAT WE HAVE IS THREATENED BY WHAT IS YET UNDONE AND BY THE COLOSSAL MALFEASANCE THAT HAS ERRODED PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN OUR GOVERNMENT AND IN OUR SYSTEM TO A DANGEROUS DEGREE.

CONFIDENCE MUST AND WILL BE RESTORED. WE CAN LOOK WITH EITHER HOPE OR DESPAIR TO THE PAST 3 YEARS IN WHICH OUR LEADERS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED, DISCREDITED, OR HAVE ADMITTED GUILT ON A SCALE UNPARALLELED IN THE FREE WORLD.



BUT WHAT OTHER COUNTRY HAS EVER SUSTAINED SUCH INTENSE AND MULTIPLE SHOCKS WITHOUT THE THREAT OF A REVOLUTION OR AN EFFORT TO IMPOSE THE TYRANNY OF A TOTALITARIAN GOVERNMENT?

AS GREAT AS WERE THESE PAST FAILURES, OUR SYSTEM NOW APPROACHES THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1976 WITH A DEDICATION TO MORALITY AND FAIRNESS THAT NONE OF US WOULD HAVE DREAMED POSSIBLE 12 SHORT MONTHS AGO. WE HAVE INDEED PROFITED FROM OUR TERRIBLE MISTAKES.

WHAT CHALLENGE THEN CAN A NEW LAW GRADUATE SEE AT THIS HISTORIC CROSSROADS IN 1975 OTHER THAN THE CHALLENGE OF FINDING A JOB --- WHICH WILL ADMITTEDLY BE GREATER THAN IN RECENT PAST YEARS.

LET ME SUGGEST A FEW --

IN THE LAST FEW YEARS WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO THE REALIZATION THAT WE ARE A WASTEFUL PEOPLE.



THE GAS CRISIS TAUGHT US THAT WE WASTED ENERGY.

THE ENVIRONMENTALISTS HAVE TAUGHT US THAT WE ARE WASTING THE AIR AND WATER RESOURCES UPON WHICH WE DEPEND FOR SURVIVAL.

THE CIVIL DISTURBANCES OF 1968 TAUGHT US THAT WE WASTE OUR HUMAN RESOURCES BY CONSIGNING LARGE SEGMENTS OF OUR POPULATION TO A CONTINUING CYCLE OF POVERTY FROM WHICH FAR TOO FEW BREAK FREE.

OUR COLLECTIVE EXISTENCE HAS BEEN ONE OF CONSUMPTION. WE CONSUMED A FRONTIER AND TURNED IT INTO A SERIES OF SPRAWLING CITIES. AND WE CONSUME OUR RESOURCES AT A FRIGHTENING RATE TO KEEP THOSE CITIES ALIVE.

AMERICA AS A NATION HAS BEEN LIKE A SPOILED CHILD USED TO ABUNDANCE. AS WE NOW REACH OUR ADOLESCENCE AS A NATION WE MUST LEARN TO BE MORE RESPONSIBLE AND SPARING WITH OUR VALUABLE RESOURCES.



TO YOU IS PRESENTED THE CHALLENGE TO TEACH THAT
RESPONSIBILITY.

TO YOU IS PRESENTED THE NEED FOR FINDING BETTER
WAYS TO SOLVE THE TOUGH ISSUES THAT DIVIDE US AND SAP
OUR GROWTH. ISSUES SUCH AS:

NEW BUSINESS AND ENERGY GROWTH

VERSUS

THE INSISTENT DEMAND FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT.

THE PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT TO GUARANTEE
NEW JOBS, HOMES AND SECURITY

VERSUS

OUR FAITH IN FREE ENTERPRISE.

THE CRITICAL NEED FOR A MORE EFFECTIVE
SYSTEM OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

VERSUS

OUR DEDICATION TO FAIR TRIALS AND OUR
COMPASSION FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED.



THE SHARP DEMAND OF CONSUMERS FOR
BETTER TREATMENT

VERSUS

THE EQUALLY INCESSENT CALL FOR LESS
GOVERNMENT REGULATION.

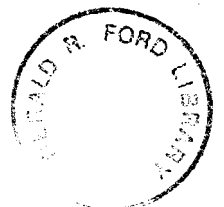
THE DESPERATE CRY OF THE UNEMPLOYED

VERSUS

THE UNIVERSAL DESIRE TO AVOID ANOTHER
CRIPPLING INFLATIONARY CYCLE.

LAWYERS NOW UNDER THE AGE OF 30 WILL FASHION FAR MORE
EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, WILL PROVIDE QUALITY LEGAL
SERVICES TO MORE OF OUR LOWER AND MIDDLE INCOME GROUPS,
AND WILL SEE TO IT THAT APPROPRIATE PORTIONS OF THESE
SERVICES WILL BE OFFERED BY NON-LAWYERS AT LOWER COSTS.

YOU WILL REFORM BOTH OUR CRIMINAL COURTS AND OUR
PENAL INSTITUTIONS. YOU WILL FIND AND ESTABLISH DISPUTE
SETTLEMENT TECHNIQUES TO LESSEN THE BURDEN ON OUR COURTS.



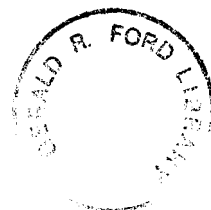
YOU WILL, IN PARTICULAR, FIND NEW SOLUTIONS FOR THE AGONY IN OUR CITIES OVER HOUSING, JOBS, SCHOOLS, BUSSING.

HOPEFULLY, IN YOUR TIME, GOVERNMENT WILL WORK BETTER BY WORKING LESS.

WITH LUCK, AND HARD WORK, YOU WILL, 25 YEARS FROM TODAY BE JUST AS PROUD OF YOUR SUCCESS AND JUST AS AWARE OF YOUR REMAINING SHORT-FALLS AS WE ARE HERE TODAY.

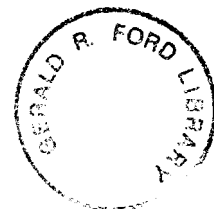
FOR ALL OF THESE ARE EITHER THE DESPERATE PROBLEMS, OR THE GREAT CHALLENGES, DEPENDING ON YOUR PRESENT STATE OF MIND, THAT AWAIT YOUR ATTENTION ALONG WITH THE JOB YOU SEEK ON THE OUTSIDE.

AND, WHERE YOU WILL FIND THAT JOB NOW THAT SO MANY OF THE ESTABLISHED AND DISTINGUISHED LAW FIRMS WITH SECURE OPPORTUNITY HAVE FILLED THEIR QUOTA OF YOUNG LAWYERS IN THIS YEAR'S RECESSION. HERE TOO IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY. LET ME RESURRECT THE WISDOM OF EMERSON, WHO SAID IN HIS SELF RELIANCE:



"IF OUR YOUNG MEN MISCARRY IN
THEIR FIRST ENTERPRISE THEY LOSE ALL
HEART . . . IF THE FINEST GENIUS
STUDIES AT ONE OF OUR COLLEGES AND
IS NOT INSTALLED IN AN OFFICE WITHIN
ONE YEAR . . . IN THE CITIES . . . IT
SEEMS TO HIS FRIENDS AND TO HIMSELF
THAT HE IS RIGHT IN BEING DISHEARTENED
. . . .

A STURDY LAD WHO IN TURN TRIES
ALL THE PROFESSIONS, WHO TRIES IT,
FARMS IT, PEDDLES . . . , PREACHES,
EDITS, GOES TO CONGRESS . . . AND SO
FORTH IN SUCCESSIVE YEARS IS
WORTH A HUNDRED OF THESE CITY DOLLS FOR
. . . HE HAS NOT ONE CHANCE BUT A
HUNDRED CHANCES. INSIST ON YOURSELF;
NEVER IMITATE."



THESE WORDS HAVE NEVER HAD MORE MEANING THAN TODAY. THERE ARE SO MANY FINE OPPORTUNITIES IN ADDITION TO THOSE THAT WERE POSTED ON YOUR BULLETIN BOARD AND ARE NOW FILLED.

THE GREAT LAW FIRMS OF TODAY WERE NOT NECESSARILY FOUNDED BY THOSE WHO SPENT THEIR LIVES IN GREAT LAW FIRMS. THE FUTURE MAY WELL BE BRIGHTER FOR YOU, IF YOU REACH FOR AN OPPORTUNITY WHICH IS NOT UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED --- BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU MAKE IT.

FORTUNE MAGAZINE, EARLIER THIS YEAR, IN CELEBRATING OUR BICENTENNIAL LISTED THOSE BUSINESS LEADERS WHO CONTRIBUTED THE MOST TO OUR NATION'S SUCCESS. WITHOUT EXCEPTION THEY PICKED THE NON-TRADITIONALISTS. PEOPLE WHO ACTED AND THOUGHT DIFFERENTLY, AND -- ACCOMPLISHED MORE.

THE COUNTRY NEEDS PEOPLE WHO CREATE NEW JOBS, FOR THEMSELVES AND OTHERS, NOT ONLY PEOPLE WHO FILL ESTABLISHED JOBS. YOURS IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO INNOVATE.



A BRITISH JURIST WAS ONCE ASKED HOW TO SUCCEED IN THE STUDY OF LAW. HE ANSWERED:

"LIVE LIKE A HERMIT AND WORK LIKE A HORSE."

TO THIS YOU CAN NOW ADD, THE NEED TO SUFFER THE FINAL ORDEAL OF A COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS!

THANK YOU.

