

The recent rather caustic censure by the United States Senate of the appointment of Charles Evans Hughes appointed by the president to the Chief Justiceship of the United States Supreme court brings before the people the function of the Supreme Tribunal

It may ~~surprising~~ enlightening to again scan the pages of the history surrounding the writing of our national constitution, the years and trials that preceded it, and the expressions of those old masters of statescraft who formed that distinguished document.

A casual reasearch establishes the fact that many of the reasons advanced by those opposing Justice Hughes were the very reasons that prompted the framers of the constitution to set up the Supreme Court, i.e. to protect the people against the encroachment of the legislative branch. It was the intention of the constitution makers to establish a fundamental law for the protection of the people and restrict the Legislative and Executive branches of the government within certain established bounds. It was then necessary to set up some tribunal and governmental machinery to protect the people and to keep the legislative and executive branches within the prescribed limits. The Supreme Court was set up for that purpose. Its primary purpose was to construe the constitution in connection with the laws enacted by the legislative branch and see that the rights of the people and the states were not infringed upon, and the constitution kept in tact free from the assaults and encroachments of the congress. In more than a hundred years of service that great court has well served its purpose. In rare instances it has given ground, somewhat, to the cry of the mob and the lobby, but taken as a whole its opinions have reflected the intentions and ideas of those great men who framed the constitution. Those men had experienced the very things they sought to protect the people from in the future. They had been through the fire, they had felt the sting of oppression, they knew the menace of governmental power and realized the need of protection against that very power whether it be reposed in a king or and "elective ~~xxx~~ despotism".