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To many it may seem anachronistic to repeat the words with which George Washington bade farewell to the nation. But to them, the Constitution itself may seem an equal anachronism. The paradox is that both, so deeply imbued with the philosophy, spirit and style of the 18th century, are so relevant today.

It is, of course, true that some passages in both documents are clearly dated. But the spirit of liberty, guaranteed by a government of law and preserved by respect for the accepted rules, is as vital today as it was in 1796. In every age, for example, Americans can say with Washington, "let there be no change by usurpation, for though this in one instance may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed."

In accordance with custom and pursuant to the Resolution of the Senate, I have read the Farewell Address today. (Chas. Mc. Watkins)