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Mothers made this country great

Hampton Dunn

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Photouring Florida

By HAMPTON DUNN



'MOTHERS MADE THIS COUNTRY GREAT'

By HAMPTON DUNN

TAMPA --- Motherhood has been recognized and honored in many ways, but tribute is paid in an unusual manner in a "monumento" erected in picturesque Plant Park here on Mother's Day, May 9, 1948.

In addition to serving this purpose, the attractive statue remind us today of the once close friendship between the U.S. and its neighbor, Cuba.

The six foot, three inch shaft was donated by the Cuban brotherhood of Orden Caballero De La Luz to the City of Tampa as a gesture of friendship. As 300 persons looked on, Martin Carabello presented the monument to Mayor Curtis Hixon.

Mayor Hixon paid honor to mothers of the nation and called Motherhood the greatest order in the world. He paid tribute to them for making this country great.

The statue is of a mother holding a baby while her little son and daughter look up to her as they hand her flowers.

The idea of the memorial was originated by Elberto Garcia of the Tampa lodge of the order. Dr. Enrique Aquillar of Cuba took the idea of the statue back to Cuba with him and the Cuban lodges joined in the movement to erect the monument. At the dedication, Valentin Dominguez of Havana, supreme master of the order, addressed the crowd in Spanish.

During the morning of the dedication day, members of the lodge visited Tampa hospitals and presented potted plants in the name of the order to hospitalized mothers.

