Calvin Coolidge Says:

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., April 18.—The nineteenth of April has been known in this country since the year 1775 as Patriots' Day. On that date British soldiers sent out from Boston through Lexington to Concord to capture military stores of the Colonists met armed resistance and were driven back with heavy losses. That day meant that the patriots would defend their rights with their lives.

Other contemporaneous events in the Colonies were of equal significance if not of equal importance, but no other had the dramatic quality which made it in song and story so much a national epic. The guns and drums of a local action not only aroused a whole country but stimulated in the soul of mankind a longing for self-government.

On the day on which this anniversary is observed it is worth while to stop and ponder what self-government means. Lawlessness does not meet its high requirements. It means that when the duly constituted authority of the people has spoken duty requires the citizen to observe and public officers to enforce the law. The result is order, certainty and confidence. If only we could abide by so simple and obvious a truth Patriots' Day would be fittingly celebrated.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., April 20.—Whenever any questions arise as to our relations with countries south of the Rio Grande some one always brings forward the charge that our business enterprises in those regions are engaged in exploiting the native population. The inference intended is one of criticism of our commercial activities as entirely selfish on our part and degrading to the people who come in contact with them.

This charge has no general application. Our business men have often gone into regions that had made little progress for hundreds of years. They have given employment at fair wages, built roads, schools, hospitals and churches, opened mines, turned the jungle into productivity and made the country sanitary. Our presence, our capital, our skill have given the inhabitants their main chance to rise in the scale of civilization. Our people have made large investments in the government loans of these countries, which have not been repaid. We have done much more for the people with whom we have come in contact than they have done for us. Up to the present time a strict balancing of accounts would probably show that we are the ones who have been exploited.

CALVIN COOLIDGE