Calvin Coolidge Says:

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., April 21.—It would be easier to determine who should go to college if the purpose of a college education were decided. If it be conceded that the purpose is merely to train sufficient leaders in thought for the professions and statecraft then the number should be limited and much emphasis put on proper selection. In that case we should be entirely right in thinking many students are not qualified for such work and so should not seek a college degree.

Another conception of education makes it a general preparation for life, a method by which individual existence is broadened and sweetened. This theory sees no reason for confining the colleges to the professions or to those of exceptional capacity. Certainly the world now rewards the trades to an even higher degree than it does some professions. If we would stop thinking that a bachelor of arts must be a white-collar man and let him be any kind of man he is adapted to be, the danger of spoiling a good craftsman to make a poor professional man would vanish. The world is too far committed to democracy easily to conclude that we can make an aristocracy of learning. Every life needs more light.

Calvin Coolidge

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., April 22.—If one of the results of unemployment is to turn more people to planting a garden, some of the loss from the depression will be retrieved. The waste of land and time to which we as a nation are so addicted will be reduced. Many of our foreign born excel our native stock in raising fruits and vegetables about the home. They are the true disciples of diversification and are not entirely dependent on the pay envelope for supplies.

The garden has more than economic importance. There is something wholesome and refreshing in tilling the soil. It has a cultural value of its own. The earliest creative impulse of the human race turned in that direction. The record goes back to Adam. Directing the growth of plant life into orderly ways gives us a consciousness of working with nature which we cannot get from mechanics or commerce. There is a color and fragrance in our own flower, a texture and flavor in our own produce, a solace and comfort in our own garden which cannot be purchased.

In adversity and in prosperity we are instinctively drawn to the great mother of us all, the soil.

Calvin Coolidge