Calvin Coolidge Says:

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Jan. 16.—The abolition of city slums through public and private effort would be social service of the first order. Public discussion concerning them seldom appears because building and tenement laws, with the high rates of wages, have greatly modified these sections. But they still exist. The present seems a time when state and local governments might join with philanthropic persons in rebuilding these areas.

Environment is a powerful factor in human development. But all that is necessary cannot be contributed by housing. Many country houses would make slums if concentrated in a large city. But, with no crowding and abundant light, air and water, the character of houses in the country is not so important.

It will take more than a combination of such improvements to abolish the slums. The problem is also personal. Changing the outer garments will not be enough. Elaborate mansions often shelter bad people while good people live in poverty. We must reach deeper and change the soul. The mental and moral atmosphere must be renovated. Fine houses will be in vain unless those who occupy them come under the influence of education and religion.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Jan. 12.—Many young men are just starting a political career of indeterminate length in state legislatures. A number of them will be future Governors and Senators. One or two may become President.

If they wish to be useful and influential in the public service they will put their reliance in courage and serious hard work. Knowing a little more about a subject under discussion than any one else on the floor will be the surest way to success. When that is done it will not be necessary to seek publicity. The press will come to them.

They will find artificial newspaper notoriety very dangerous. Even when it becomes very wide it has no depth. That kind of a reputation can be destroyed as easily as it was created by an equally artificial counterblow from the opposition. Legislators ought to pay much more attention to history. There are very few problems that are new. If they examine what has been done in the past they will save themselves from many errors in the present. In the political life of tomorrow not only the greatest satisfaction but the greatest power will go to the men who are right today.

CALVIN COOLIDGE