Calvin Coolidge Says:

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Jan. 6.—A few years ago we were discussing Americanization of our residents of foreign birth. Not being an appropriate word, it aroused considerable antagonism among those we desired to help, which we can comprehend by thinking of our own reaction if, on entering a foreign country, volunteer associations or governmental agencies tried to transform us into natives.

What we really intended was a course of helpful education to instruct new arrivals to the United States in the meaning of our laws and customs, so that they might better avoid the perils and secure the advantages of being here. But with the natural aptitude which people have and with the restriction of immigration, little outside help has been necessary.

The great proportion of immigrants duly become desirable citizens. But those who fail to respond to the privileges of our country, who fall into evil ways and violate our laws, should be punished for their crimes and then deported. We have all we can do to take care of deserving people without being burdened with those who demonstrate their unfitness to enjoy our liberties.

The Secretary of Labor is right in proposing to enforce the deportation law.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Jan. 7.—There will be general satisfaction that the note of our government sent to Liberia by Secretary Stimson has made us one of the first nations to use its influence where its influence could properly be effective to abolish the remnants of human slavery in the world.

Our relations with Liberia have been very intimate ever since that country was designated about one hundred years ago as a settlement for freed slaves from the United States. That gave us an especial interest, rising to a duty, to preserve a state of freedom for its colored people. After learning from an official investigation by a commission having American representation of the existence in that republic of slavery, and forced labor, good faith on our part required immediate and firm action.

We have discharged a moral, if not a legal, obligation. If other nations will take a like attitude where they have a like responsibility the 5,000,000 slaves reported by Lord Cecil of the League of Nations to exist in the world speedily will be set free. From our own history we know this can be done. But these unfortunate people should not be turned adrift. They must be assisted in becoming self-supporting.

CALVIN COOLIDGE