NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Jan. 8.—Germany has been regaining her place in the world with remarkable rapidity. While her large national expenses need reduction, all but reparations and interest on foreign loans go to her own people. Taxes are less than in England. Her merchant fleet and exports have risen to a high place.

Perhaps the best explanation of the World War was an eagerness in Europe to hurry progress. It led to universal tragic disaster. Contentment with normal development would have changed entirely the present world aspect. Germany especially would now be in an enviable position.

There are no short cuts in national life. If Germany will heed the lessons of the past and be content to work out her destiny by doing her best to meet her obligations, she will continue to grow in the estimation of the world and such sympathy and help as she needs will be forthcoming. To adopt some other course would endanger all the good opinion so laboriously gained since 1819. The responsible elements of her government appear to recognize this and are successfully striving to discharge national obligations. Their efforts are gaining the good will of other people.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Jan. 9.—State legislatures are now in session. Almost as much as the Congress, they will affect the public welfare. They should face all facts. That will be difficult. It is axiomatic that half the world does not know how the other half lives. But state legislatures are fresh from the people. They know the conditions of their own neighborhoods much better than Congressmen know them.

Some people are suffering from lack of work, some from lack of water, many more from lack of wisdom. These facts have been emphasized all out of proportion to their importance. Other facts of abundant supplies of food, raw materials, credit, productive capacity and the ability of a free people to take care of themselves when necessary are being almost entirely ignored. Cities and towns are responsible for relief. Give them all needed authority to raise and expend their own money for that purpose. That and local charity will be sufficient. Recall the principle of President Cleveland that it is the business of the people to support the government, not of the government to support the people. We can supply enough of our own lack of wisdom. We do not need to increase it by unwise legislation.

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