Calvin Coolidge Says:

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., July 15.—Because the rule of eternal vigilance requires us to strive to make our government better we should not conclude that it is not already good. If any one will examine the course of Federal legislation for the last decade, surprisingly little will be found that is distinctly bad and most of that is chiefly because of the expense involved. Oftentimes the House or the Senate have come to a wrong decision which further deliberation has corrected before final enactment. Sometimes the veto power of the President has saved the situation. On occasion the power to investigate has been criticized. But even these explorations by revealing the truth or falsity of accusations have often been most salutary. If too little thought has been given to co-operation with the service which those responsible for the conduct of business are trying to render, scrupulous care has been exercised in efforts to promote the welfare of the great body of the people. The general level of ability and character of the holders of Federal office is remarkably high. The people are in control of their own affairs. Self-government is a success. The United States is worthy of the best we can give it.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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Calvin Coolidge Says:

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., July 15.—The world does not make real progress as fast as some expected. Like backward people with free constitutions reverting to revolution, the nations have made numerous agreements with each other for peace and then turned their attention to preparation for war. In spite of all the high resolutions, all the solemn treaties, all the carefully prepared organizations set up for the peaceable adjustment of international disputes, the world is arming more heavily than before the war, and we hear too many distinct utterances of hostility. This is a disconcerting change from the spirit of the Paris Peace Conference. Then there was disagreement about reparations and allocation of territory, but absolute accord by friend and foe alike on the principle of reduction and limitation of armaments and the maintenance of peace.

It was so nominated in the Treaty of Versailles. Germany consented to disarm on the agreement of the other parties to the treaty to disarm. Yet only the United States has proposed and secured any practical agreements for limitation of armaments. It has not been possible to secure much real reduction. The war curbed for a time but has not greatly changed the spirit of the nations.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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