Calvin Coolidge Says:

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., March 26.—Many charges and some revelations in relation to the government of some of our large cities are appearing. It may be wondered whether these conditions were in any way a development of an era of prosperity and easy money which brought about an official complacency and laxity in the observance and enforcement of the law.

Whatever the cause, two things should be remembered. There are hundreds of thousands of public officials in the nation who discharge their duties in an intelligent and conscientious way. No reason exists for any general condemnation of our government. And, what is more important, when cause has been shown both public officials and large bodies of private citizens have come forward in an effective way to secure investigation of charges and prosecution of wrongdoing. The moral power of the community has asserted itself in a wholesome and encouraging way. A few evildoers attract a great deal of attention. But the great body of the law-abiding people in and out of office, unnoticed in their well-doing, are still the determining force in this country. Nothing has occurred to diminish our confidence in the soundness of our governmental structure or our faith in the people.

Calvin Coolidge

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., March 27.—The inherent strength of the people and their great recuperative power have been demonstrated again in these recent months in a most impressive way by the American Red Cross. When the drought left a considerable area of our country stricken, the Red Cross officials at once came forward with the explicit declaration that their organization was able to give suitable relief. They asked the public for ten million dollars, which was handsomely oversubscribed. Under their experienced care those in want were fed, clothed and given medical attention. This system of organized voluntary aid met the situation. Normal conditions are returning in the affected territory. Some of it is reported better off than usual. The loss is regrettable, but the national benefit from the exercise of the charitable spirit is large compensation.

If this stood alone it would be remarkable. But it came at a time when nearly every locality had its own problem. Yet the whole nation responded. It turned out that the best resource of the people is themselves. Left alone without the paralyzing interposition of the government, the people have a better opportunity for progress, prosperity and happiness than can ever be secured from any official bureau.

Calvin Coolidge