CALVIN COOLIDGE

Calvin Coolidge Says:

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Nov. 1.—This republic need fear little internal danger if the people conscientiously discharge their duty to vote. All abuses that may arise will be redressed by that constitutional method. We can secure a government of the bad by the good and avoid a government of the good by the bad only through a general expression of the qualified voters.

We have plenty of unthinking people, some vicious, and others organized for selfish exploitation of the public through governmental agencies. All of these elements vote in full force. In a light vote they will be the decisive factor.

The great body of our people are thoughtful, serious, unselfish and patriotic. They are not easily deceived, because they contemplate both the future and the past. Demagogues and false issues do not move them. They have wisdom. They are judges of men. The Republic is safe when they vote.

Both the voters and public officers may be confused by complicated governmental questions. But the voters are not confused about candidates. They know a sham from a reality. The country needs the judgment of every enlightened voter on November Fourth.

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Nov. 3.—The November elections held in the even years afford the only direct, formal and legal method for the regular nation-wide expression of the sovereignty of the people. These days are a test of self-government. Their results do not give us absolute perfection and security, but they do give us the safest and best government that it has ever been possible for a great nation to provide.

We need to exert ourselves to live up to the ideal of a sovereign, self-governing people. We need to think for ourselves. That means voting our own convictions. We need to act for ourselves. That means going to the polls without having to be dragged by a ward committee.

By this time all voters should know what candidates they want to support. Plans should be made to vote as early as possible. Everything else is subordinate on Election Day.

There is nothing new or complicated about the duty of the voter. Every one can understand it. The cheapest and best way is to meet it. The cost to the people of disfranchised indifference is one of our heaviest taxes. The public welfare requires but a little thought and time of the average citizen.

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