NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Oct. 21.—Those who are constantly agitating, either for political or publicity purposes, for a revision of German reparations, and who are trying to connect them with the European debts owed the United States, are doing distinct injury to the world economic situation. They arouse new uncertainties and inflame old animosities. We should regard these questions as settled. Let Europe adjust its own difficulties. The present rates of payment can be met by all countries concerned.

Those saying that if Germany defaults reparations other countries cannot pay the United States debts are overreaching themselves. That means that if reparations are not collected from Germany they must be collected from the taxpayers of the United States.

We must all suffer from the consequences of a world war. It is now costing our taxpayers about $2,000,000,000 each year. To claim that cancellation would be profitable to international trade only means that a subsidy of so much tax money would be profitable. But that would not meet the situation. Paying the cost of the war is a moral obligation. It cannot be evaded by trade profits. It is best to meet it and stop discussing it. The world wants certainty, not agitation.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Oct. 22.—The organizing ability of the people and the capacity for co-operation between public and private institutions are being most encouragingly displayed in the plans being made to relieve any possible distress and want during the coming winter. Cincinnati, Detroit, Indianapolis and New York are leading the way in private charity for giving relief and work.

This is properly recognized as a local responsibility for town, city and county administration. They are the government units to which is legally assigned the responsibility for relief under our system. But in the present case it is fitting that the state and national governments should contribute their counsel and assistance through voluntary and extralegal committees. The needs of humanity reach all our government organizations and all our people. No one is immune from responding to that call.

It cannot be repeated too often that the resources of the country are ample to meet all requirements. There is no occasion for any public panic. Such relief as is necessary will be forthcoming. But local governments and private charity should both be alert to organize at once to meet this fundamental obligation of society to all its members.

CALVIN COOLIDGE