Calvin Coolidge Says:

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Aug. 20.—This has been designated by the state and national governments as Labor Day. It will be duly observed throughout the entire country. Very properly, a great deal will be said about the dignity of work. That cannot be too often emphasized. But, after all, the way to demonstrate the true dignity of work is by working.

The wage earners of the United States, considering rates of pay and conditions of employment, occupy the most fortunate position in the labor world. The general quality of their leadership is improving. They think beyond higher wages and shorter hours. The old theory of reducing hours and output in order to increase wages and prices has generally been abandoned. It defeats itself by limiting sales.

The success of the wage earners and the economic success of our country have been pre-eminently due to the general refusal of labor to curtail production. We have been willing to work. Helped by machinery, we have increased production, which, in turn, has increased both wages and profits while reducing prices. This benefits everybody and is a process that has no ascertainable limits. The immeasurable hope for labor lies in following this great principle of our industrial development.

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Sept. 1.—Another school year is opening. Over 27,000,000 scholars will be enrolled. To this great throng will be added more than 800,000 college students. The teaching force reaches toward a million. Education is a great business enterprise requiring an expenditure of over $2,000,000,000 each year. This will soon be felt in many avenues of trade.

While it is easy to waste money on education, it is the one thing which we cannot afford to curtail. The true ideal would seem to be a system that supplies those in the lower grades with certain basic information and those in the upper grades with the power to think.

Under the modern tendency education covers many subjects. This method subjects the student to the danger of being only superficial and not having a thorough knowledge of any subject.

The school is not the end but only the beginning of an education. Yet its place cannot be filled in any other way. The best thing the millions of our youth can do to assure their future success is to work faithfully at their studies. That opportunity for improvement and discipline will never return.

Calvin Coolidge