Calvin Coolidge Says:

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Sept. 18.—So far as the primary election results disclose anything it seems to be the presence of a rather large protest vote. This has not been directed in general at any particular issue, but appears to be in the nature of dissatisfaction with present conditions. The German elections and the revolutions in South America indicate that it is not confined to this country but is worldwide.

The dissatisfied have not always been victorious. But, beginning in Illinois and trailing along through California, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina and Wisconsin, they were sufficient to defeat the incumbents in state or national office.

A situation of this nature is especially difficult for organized society to meet. When there are specific abuses they can be reformed. But when there is simply a general complaint that the government is not doing things that can only be done by the hardest kind of work and the most skilled management of the people themselves, the answer is so long and involved that the voters are slow to grasp it.

It is a time when the conservative and constructive influences of the world, without regard to party lines or international boundaries, must co-operate.

Calvin Coolidge

-----

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Sept. 19.—In the conduct of popular government, in the maintenance of liberty, in releasing the human mind from artificial restraints so that the people may be free to pursue the truth and follow the rule of conscience, a broad spirit of toleration is necessary. This is only another name for a becoming humility. None of us knows all there is to know. While our way may be best for us, some different way may be best for others.

In a world of limitations we cannot expect perfection. But we ought not to permit any confusion between toleration and complacency. We have certain legal and social standards that support all progress. They are not easy to maintain. Their value often does not appear to the young and the thoughtless. It may be thought we can have a little graft in government and business without much harm. But if an attitude of complacency is adopted toward such conduct it will be but a short time before the whole political and social fabric is corroded by corruption.

The present activity in several localities by both governmental and volunteer agencies in attempts to reform such abuses is a most wholesome spectacle of revolt against complacency.

Calvin Coolidge