Calvin Coolidge Says:

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Sept. 4.—The Senatorial committee investigating campaign expenses is not a dignified spectacle.

After the Supreme Court decision that jurisdiction over nominations rests with the states, an investigation of them under the fiction that it is for the purpose of future legislation is a questionable use of authority. It would seem to lead almost to the conclusion that the people cannot be trusted to choose their own candidates without supervision. To admit that is to admit that self-government has failed.

Proper police power should be invoked through executive action against violations of the law. For a legislative committee to engage in it, to direct a force of detectives against candidates as though they were suspected of criminal action, does not comport with the dignity of a great deliberative body. Now a counter-band of detectives are investigating the investigators.

Evil practices in making nominations should be prevented and punished. But that is not the function of the Senate. Liberty requires that the executive, legislature and judiciary be kept separate. Tainted elections can be handled in a dignified way on the Senate floor. They do not warrant a dangerous invasion of executive functions and state rights.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Sept. 5.—Two recent events remind us again that man is almost helpless against the elements. One was the earthquake around Naples in Italy where many hundreds of people were killed and much property destroyed, and the other was the tropical hurricane which passed over Santo Domingo almost obliterating that ancient city and carrying death to several hundred of its inhabitants.

Such catastrophes move the heart of humanity to sympathy and at once set in motion the relief agencies of the neighboring governments and the American Red Cross. The realization of our common helplessness against such upheavals of nature arouses in us a stronger sense of our common brotherhood.

For some reason difficult to explain a sudden disaster of this kind, entirely beyond human control, moves people to compassion while they are more or less indifferent to the slaughter of three thousand tribesmen around Mount Ararat and to a far greater loss of life and property in China through deliberate human action by war and resulting famine. With all our civilization, all our humanity, all our religion, men are still less in danger from the elements than they are from each other.

CALVIN COOLIDGE