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SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 1967

Office of the Press Secretary
to Mrs. Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON
AT THE CALVIN COOLIDGE HOME
PLYMOUTH, VERMONT, JUNE 11, 1967

I have been anticipating this visit to the Calvin Coolidge Homestead this morning.

A visit like this brings history alive. Homes like this, furnished as they were when they were a setting for history, are part of our life as a people -- a connecting link between a past which millions of Americans helped to make and a future we must continue to make.

After this New England visit,

The character of an area has its effect on the people. I will be better able to understand what I have heard and read of President Coolidge, his devotion to duty, his capacity for hard work, his dislike of ostentation and his ability to express himself in terse phrases.

In fact, I frequently hear a paraphrase of his quotation "Let men in public office substitute the light that comes from the midnight oil for the limelight."

The gift of the Calvin Coolidge homestead to the State of Vermont by Mr. John Coolidge and the operation of it by the State as a museum are in the best traditions of preservation.

Sometimes, we are too quick to rip out the scenes in our fabric of history -- making way for the new -- and in so doing, we can lose the sense of what we are or what we want to be. We forget, sometimes, that we are in partnership with those who have gone before us and those who will live after us.

Because this house is now available for the future, because it helps to show the true relation of the land to the national life, because it shows the concern of the people and a State government for a link of history, I am most pleased to present this National Park Service plaque designating the Calvin Coolidge Homestead as a registered national Historic landmark.

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