

# *Calvin Coolidge Says:*

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NORTHAMPTON, Mass., July 24.—Investigation of the Amtorg, which is a Russian trading company, may raise some important question. Our government has no diplomatic relations with Russia. But it is perfectly lawful for our nationals, at their own risk, to trade with Russia, or for her nationals to trade here. Our law excludes from this country persons of certain beliefs and practices which we think are inimical to our government and institutions. But it is not the practice to inquire very minutely into the beliefs of foreigners coming here temporarily for genuine mercantile purposes. Besides, we have held the opinion that trade and time would be the means of restoring Russia. It had been supposed that the agents of the Amtorg were not engaged in anything but trade. If an investigation shows that they are taking advantage of the hospitality we have granted them as merchants to participate in activities against our peace and order, our government will take proper notice of that fact. Meantime it is proper to await proof before reaching final judgment. Our people are so thoroughly attached to their own system of self-government that we need not feel it is in imminent danger.

CALVIN COOLIDGE