

He spoke of his investigations to his father, who, being a friend of the Postmaster General William Mulock, (now Sir William Mulock) advised his twenty-three year old son to acquaint the latter of the conditions he had found. The boy - for the first time facing the government - told about the sweat prices. - "Make a report on our uniform contracts - and at once." In this way, the bridge was let down between the fortress of the state and the heart of the young social worker and idealist.

King, still thirsty for knowledge and learning, and much impressed by the dignity of teaching, went to study at Harvard. There his talents were soon noticed, and quickly obtained him a fellowship for a year's study in Europe, and a position as instructor in political economy. Soon he was on his way to London, where he went to live as he had done in Chicago at a Social Settlement, to learn more about the conditions he was bent on studying.

When over forty years later, he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at Columbia University, on the same day as the English reformer Sir William Beveridge, they found out, as they exchanged memories, that they had been living close to one another and engaged in similar work and study. "By accident", King said to Beveridge, "my course was directed to political life."