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underdog, who, in the beginning of the century, had lesser protection than today.

As Minister of Labour, he came more than ever to the foreground in industrial controversies. Especially was this the case when the great American railway strike spread over to the Canadian Railways in 1909.

Canada was paralyzed in 1910, when the railroad workers struck. They wanted to share the advantages of their comrades in the United States who were being paid by mile, not by day. When after two weeks King succeeded in getting an understanding, he managed to avoid having the strike leaders dismissed, as was usual in those times, and insisted as a condition of the agreement that all employees should be reinstated in their former positions and full rights. The Company later refused to have this condition apply to pension rights. King as Minister of Labour was out of office/in 1911. When he returned as Prime Minister in 1921, he insisted^{on} and secured the restoration of pension rights in full as from the day the agreement was signed.

The will to reconcile harsh conflicts in a just way, conflicts between classes, conflicts between races and nations, an abhorrence of war, the avoidance of forceful methods can be called the dominating factors of King's state philosophy. "In my public life," he said to me, "I have sought to make toleration and moderation guiding principles."