

its Hamilton plant because it was discriminating against unionists in its employ, and then put in a Government Controller who not only refused to deal with the Steel Union but actually organized a company union. King also refused to let Crown companies deal with unions (until very recently), on the specious plea that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ the Department of Justice ~~XXXX~~ said it was ~~XXXX~~ legally impossible. What this "ruling" was based on, no one ever explained; how much it was worth is now evident, when King passes an Order-in-Council granting precisely the thing he said was legally impossible. As a result of this sort of thing, and of the way in which the Government's whole labour policy has been dictatorially imposed, without reference to Parliament or consultation with those most concerned, the trade unionists of this country don't believe a word King says, and won't trust him farther than they can kick him. This steel trouble is only a beginning of what we may expect unless someone can knock some sense into his head, or unless he can be replaced by someone with brains and character. The man has just absolutely no conception of what he is up against, and what he is letting this country in for; or if he has he doesn't care. I think it's the former.

And then he gets up at the A.F. of L. Convention and the Pilgrims' Society and ~~XXXXXX~~ blathers about freedom and equality and brotherhood and the rest of it! Do you wonder that his proclamations stink in the nostrils of Canadian workers?

I hear rumours that he will "freeze" the union's funds, and so starve the men back to work. And if he does, how will he make them work when they get into the plants? Set an armed guard over each worker? The thing is just lunacy.

This has been a fearful jeremiad, and as long as one of King's or his grandfather's productions. I hope it has at least been informative. If there is any particular point on which you want further information, or comment, I shall of course be delighted to furnish it, if I can. I agree with Miss Robinson that it is supremely important that King should not be able to manoeuvre the country into a situation where it's Mackenzie King, saviour of the nation, supported by patriots, versus the steel workers and their allies.

I am now well on with the Index of my book, by the way, and hope to get it off in a day or so. Then the only possible obstacle to very early publication will be Sir John Marriott's illness; but I think we can surmount that, as I have a letter from him which seems to provide for such emergencies.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Miss Robinson for her and Golden's information. They wanted something of the sort, and I frankly haven't time to do two such documents. I am sure you will not mind.

Yours sincerely,

*Eugene Foray*