Re Suggested Reforms -

What are they? - minimum wages, maximum hours, especially re female labour, abolition of sweating, of child labour; old age pensions, unemployment insurance, accident, invalidity insurance, and, in general terms, the abolition of unfair practices in trade and industry.

All of these we have in Canada in some measure, under (a) provincial jurishetion, (b) under federal jurisdiction.

Similar measures of social and industrial reform exist in other countries.

We have to be thankful that the Prime Minister has, even at this late date, come to see that measures of the kind are desirable, and necessary. The lamentable part of it all is that this recognition has come at the end of his five years of power rather than at the beginning of it. He was elected on his solemn undertaking that he would end unemployment. He now says that all these things are necessary to that end. Why then were the necessary measures not enacted during has term of office. Why have they been left over as a series of promises to serve his ends and those of his party in another general election.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939 (M.G. 26, J 4, volume 163, pages Cl16385-Cl16956)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES CANADA