

in whom they find some disappointment because he does not attempt to hold the limelight or become a crusader.

Nevertheless, if it is a crusader the public want, they are going to feel disappointed if they don't find him.

This brings me to the conclusion that the chief problem that the Liberal Party faces today is in dressing up their leader in the clothes of a great crusader and persuading him to act the part.

Unquestionably factors that we face today in economics, labor, sectional interests, racial prejudices, are more acute than they might have been had a firm hand taken hold of them two years back. In the opinion of many people (both management and workers) the public were prepared to face sacrifice, regimentation and personal disappointments if they were convinced that it was for the good of the cause, and that the country as a whole would be treated alike.

By degrees the impression went abroad that it was the squeaky wheel that got the oil, and that there was no hard and fast policy to be applied with a firm hand anywhere. This broke down confidence and set the stage for organized and unorganized agitation against restrictions and controls in its many forms. As this agitation grows and exception after exception is made, the public lay the blame directly on the individual in whom they feel a disappointment, principally because the firm determined hand is not apparent.

It is noticeable that in criticisms of Government Departments the blame for unpopular administration is largely passed on to the leader rather than to the Department head. This has been particularly apparent in the various changes in the Department of Labour. On the other hand, where a particularly good job has been done, even though it be a most unwelcome one, the credit does not go to the leader but to the individual, as in the case with Mr. Ilsley and the Department of Finance.

I cannot feel from what I have heard that the public is purely selfish in their attitude. I am convinced that Labor and the Executive Class (I have no contacts with the agrarian class) are willing to submerge their personal interests provided they have confidence in the judgement of the leader who asks for those sacrifices.

Treating the question of the leader as a personality, Mr. King