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### MR. CHURCHILL AND LABOR.

A few weeks ago Mr. Churchill addressed his constituents at Dundee on the labor unrest. He spoke plainly to the labor men and socialists. He told them that the weapon of a general strike is the most powerful in the world, but that it can only be used for the purpose of suicide, and it is upon the working people, the working population in the great towns, the great manufacturing towns and districts of Great Britain, that its cruel edge would fall with absolute certainty and with incredible swiftness, if ever the experiment were attempted. The duty of the government when such an emergency appears is obvious. No administration, liberal, tory or socialist, could neglect its duty, or refuse it, without being a traitor to its trust. The government is bound to take the most effective measures in their power, first, to maintain order; secondly, to prevent intimidation; and thirdly to secure the working of the food supply.

Continuing, Mr. Churchill said:

No other consideration could be so important and no question of the interests of a political party, or of the popularity of a political party, or of the popularity of a particular minister, could be allowed to weigh even for a moment. Everyone in life has to take the rough with the smooth. There are

unpleasant and thankless duties to be done in every walk and station of life, and when these come a man's way and he is quite sure what his duty is, he has just got to go through with it.

But I should like to make it plain to you that the action which the government have taken is in the strictest accordance with the law of the land and with constitutional practice. There has been no martial law, nor anything approaching it. Every soldier, every policeman, every official, including the Home Secretary—has been and is severely amenable to the ordinary law, and he is subject to exactly the same law as any striker or any member of the general public. For all that he does he can be made responsible before the ordinary tribunal and before juries of his fellow-countrymen.

But law and order and its maintenance are only half of the question that is before us. Our experience of history, our knowledge of our own fellow-countrymen, and their character teach us this important fact—that where there is keen discontent in any large body of British people there is sure to be some very real and very good cause for it. It is idle and it is foolish to ascribe the manifestations we have lately witnessed to the mere mischief mongering of a few agitators. They have a natural cause. Discover the cause; remedy the cause, or let it be seen that you are genuinely anxious to