

February 27, 1929

Dear Mary Gilson:

I was so pleased to hear from you the other day, and to know that you are launched in your task and that you are going to have the stimulus of the Labor Bureau in Geneva. I do so want to get your impressions of what they are doing there.

Of course your interviews with Baldwin and the Duke of York were ighty interesting. It is the frankness and directness of Baldwin that have always pleased me. He seems to me not to try to fool himself or anybody else, and that is more than you can say for a lot of leaders.

I was in Cleveland when I received your letter, doing a little Lincoln speaking. A couple of your friends brought me home from tea that my College gave me at the City Club. I cannot think of their names, but they are engaged in library work and very much somebody. I didn't tell them about Baldwin and the Duke of York, although I longed to, you having marked the thing confidential; but I told them that, as usual, you were doing interesting and valuable work.

I hope you will come out with some kind of wise suggestions about unemployment. I have a feeling that we are in for it here before many years. I don't see it solved by insurance, though I suppose we have got to have some for of it to tide over when it gets too badly out of hand. Will we ever stop it until we get the whole world into one organized system of production, standardized and regulated, one's output suited to needs?

Horrible idea, yet, if we could do it as well as many dream, would it be so horrible? Would we not naturally find other and higher outlets?

I have neither heard nor seen any of our friends since you were here. In January, which I expected to give to squaring up my accounts in town and seeing everybody I knew, I was laid flat with influenza and saw nobody. Have had a horrid time of it in this country, and the after effects have been peculiarly vicious, taking all the strength out of one, leaving you in a chronic state of collapse. I am getting through it, however, and hope before long to be quite myself.

Do write me often, and I shall so appreciate a carbon copy

of interviews or reports, which I will be glad to keep under my hat if you say so.

With a great deal of love, believe me, dear Mary,

Affectionately yours

Miss Mary Gilson
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