

Iron & Steel

As I walked by the steelworks one fine summers day
I met with a young man come walking my way
He said some time soon mate I'll join the dole queue
I'm losing my job and don't know what to do

I went to my work as I do every day
To work the hot steel in number nine bay
I was just clockin' on when they gave me the news
But 1,000 jobs is too many to lose

*Farewell to my comrades the smoke and the flame
Goodbye to the cabin goodbye to the crane
No more you build bridges nor lay the long keel
Farewell to the life in the iron and steel*

Young lads with families, and older chaps too
Our circumstances mean nothing to you
Not a thought for my bairns, not a care for my wife
After all of my loyalty all my working life

Now all you shareholders with comfortable lives
With your quiet country mansions and your luncheon club wives
You can count all your money, keep all your perks,
Maintain your precious profit while less of us work

From the bridge yard the beam mill the wagon and crane
Goodbye to the chimney the fifty-foot flame
Goodbye to the place where I worked all my days
Damn and blast all you furnaces I'm moving away

Words & Music R.Grainger

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