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WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION THE GUIDE

LANGLEY'S NAME CLEAR

Regina, Sask., April 2.—In the presence of learned legal counsel and before their Lordships Mr. Justice Brown and Mr. Justice Elwood of the Royal Commission, Hon. George Langley, Minister of Municipal Affairs, yesterday morning provided the most dramatic and interesting situation that has been developed since the beginning of the investigation of the Bradshaw charges two weeks ago.

The Minister of Municipal Affairs was one of the several members of the Saskatchewan Legislature whose names were connected with the charge of receiving money from hotelmen in return for influence used in securing licences. It became quite evident and was frankly acknowledged by the prosecution some days ago when Mr. Langley's case was introduced, that the charge against the Minister was entirely without foundation, but like Paul before Agrippa, he was accorded the privilege by the commissioners of speaking for himself, and his defence yesterday morning, which consisted mainly of a cross-examination of J. E. Bradshaw, M.P.P. and H. V. Bigelow, the prosecuting counsel, made his exoneration doubly sure. The judges stated there was no evidence whatever against him.

A Sturdy Self-Defence

Mr. Langley's cross-examination of the man who has placed his name over all the charges that have been laid so recently at the feet of the Scott Government will be long remembered in this Province. It formed the picture of a rugged, honest Englishman, sturdy and belligerent despite an age of more than three-score years, assailing, with wounded pride, one who had sought to soil a reputation that had been won thru twenty-four years of constant association with the agricultural people of the West. He made Mr. Bradshaw admit that he knew nothing about the charge that had been laid against him, and in doing so he made Mr. Bradshaw confess that he was not acquainted with the conditions under which the Royal Commission was sitting.

In conclusion Mr. Langley took the stand in order to make the following statement, which should be included in the official report of the enquiry: "During the ten years I have been in public life I have never taken a dollar from any License Commissioner or license holder or hotel man at any time. I want to say that I have had applications from thousands of men and women in trouble mostly because of my connection with the farmers' movement, since I have been in public life, and have never taken a dollar or the value of a dollar during the whole time. I want to state this, further, that if I should ever descend to graft I should not take it second-hand or from a lawyer, because I should not get anything."

FORCING A DUKE TO BE USEFUL

Altho the land value tax imposed in England under the Lloyd George budget, is ridiculously small, it has had some effect, as may be noted by the following from the New York Sun regarding the Duke of Marlborough.

"The Duke, who is the husband of Consuelo Vanderbilt, after protesting against pending radical land measures, two years ago placed 1,000 acres of his Blenheim Castle estate under the plow, with the object of increasing the national food supply and giving employment to laborers. He has since produced two good crops of wheat, barley and oats. He substituted sheep for the mowser on his lawns, and when the supply of grass became scarce planted cabbages in his flower beds. The Duke also made a grant of land on which to build cottages for the laborers."

Slight as the tax is, it has forced the Duke to employ labor in putting to some use, land which he had previously held out of use.

That so slight an application of land value taxation should have such a result, shows what a benefit it would be to England to extend the principle further.

It would seem that the way, with its need of increased revenue, would have been sufficient reason to increase taxes on land value. But unfortunately this has not been done. The landowners of England were evidently not sufficiently patriotic to endorse an increase of taxation, so the English Cabinet and Parliament put war expenses on labor instead.

However, such opposition will only hasten the time when the landed aristocracy must surrender its privileges.

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