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THE GOVERNMENT AND LAZARUS

Notorious Immigration Crook Was Joint Agent of the Interior Department--Strike Breaker for Crow's Nest Coal Co.--How the Canadian Labor Market Was Glutted

(Continued from last week.) The result of Mr. Preston's appeal to Mr. Ennis was the appointment of Leopold as a booking agent for the Allan line. As above stated, Leopold took up quarters in the same building that Mr. Preston occupied and there carried on with the assistance of Mr. Preston, the work which was causing so much trouble in Canada. The second letter of Mr. Preston to Mr. Ennis shows that the former understood the situation in Canada, and the attitude that the government took before the public. Mr. Preston deceived Mr. Ennis when he said that the action of the labor unions in Canada and their influence on the government had led to the establishment of a labor bureau by large employers of various kinds of mechanics and skilled laborers, which has taken shape in the Canadian Labor Bureau and when he said "although I am not supposed to know anything about the workings of the company, I necessarily made enquiries as to its bona fides, and also the financial standing of those interested in its inception."

ton's testimony on that matter is given on page 188 of the public accounts committee evidence: I may say here that I received at one time from Mr. G. G. S. Lindsay of Toronto, a considerable sum of money, which he wanted me to hold in trust for the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. to be used for the payment of the transportation of employees of the company. Mr. Lindsay had made arrangements with Mr. Leopold to send out two or three thousand miners, and he left some money, or a considerable sum of money with me to be paid out on Mr. Leopold bringing me vouchers indicating that he had paid the transportation of these miners. Question. He was getting the miners for the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company? Answer. Yes. Q. But they were sending you money? A. Mr. Lindsay asked me to take care of the money as he was not acquainted with anybody in London with whom he could leave it. Speaking of this matter on May 9, 1906, Ralph Smith, Liberal-Labor member for Nanaimo, referred to the Crow's Nest Strike of 1903 and to the conduct of the Canadian Labor Bureau in making misrepresentations in London for the purpose of bringing men out. He said (Hansard 1906 page 2954-2955): The Canadian Labor Bureau which has been instrumental in bringing men to this country had an office in the same building as that in which is located the public immigration offices of Canada, not at the same number, but certainly in the same building, and placed on its letter heads the Canadian Arms, conveying the impression that the Canadian government was associated with its projects. In connection with the Canadian Labor Bureau in London I have been speaking about, operated by a person named Leopold, and as I have said operated in the same building as the Dominion government immigration offices. I have a letter in my possession, written by Mr. Leopold himself containing his advertisement, which I am sure, is quite sufficient to delude the public of England and quite sufficient to bring people to this country under a very serious and false delusion. This royal protection as exercised by the Italians in Montreal and by the Canadian Labor Bureau seems to be quite a favorite method. Quite apart from the injustice done the workingmen and their families who are deceived in this way and the injustice to working men in Canada whose positions are taken away from them through persons brought to Canada in this way, I am sure the members of this House will agree that it is an indignity to the nation as a whole that the symbol of its national authority should be made an instrument of fraud to deceive and to injure citizens. I believe that national frauds of this kind cannot be too closely watched or dealt with too severely, for if private parties are to be permitted for their own personal purposes to use the name and symbol of national authority the government might as well give up at once any effort on its own part to use its name and authority for promoting its own legitimate ends. I shall read the letter. It is dated from 13 Charing Cross, London, which is in the same building with the government offices; it bears the Canadian coat of arms, and is as follows: Authorised Booking Office. Canadian Labor Bureau, 13 Charing Cross, London, S.W., 24th June 1904. My Dear Sir,--In reply to your letter of a recent date, I beg to say that bricksetters are very greatly in demand at the present time, as are close you list giving you the wages earned and should recommend you to go to either Montreal, Toronto or Winnipeg, fares at the present time £3 10 5, £4 9 7, or £5 10, respectively, through from Liverpool. Of course these cheap rates are not likely to continue for long. I could furnish you with a letter of introduction which would obtain you immediate employment on arrival in any of these centres. Toronto is very short handed at the moment, as besides the general activity of the building trades, the recent disastrous fire has increased the demand for men in the building trade. The cost of living is also cheap in this part of the world, and you would get good board and lodging for 12 shillings 8 pence per week. I enclose you sailing bills and shall be pleased to hear further from you. I am, dear sir, yours faithfully, For Louis Leopold, Government Endorser. Mr. Smith is a good Liberal and of course, expressed the opinion that the government had done nothing to encourage this business of Leopold. But when the member for Nanaimo

spoke he did not know that the chief of the government's immigration staff in Europe had been holding the money for Leopold and the Crow's Nest people, that he had recommended Leopold to all the steamship companies requiring agents, that he had induced the Allan company to engage Leopold, and Leopold himself to establish the labor bureau next door to the government immigration offices, and that in the year following the Crow's Nest affair, the following circular had been issued in thousands from Mr. Preston's office. (See Hansard, July 3, 1906, page 6875.) "This department does not undertake to give advice in respect to openings in the trades in Canada. We confine ourselves to the requirements of the country in connection with agricultural settlement and agricultural help skilled and unskilled. At the same time and in response to your requests, I may say that there are several responsible labor agencies in this country who are in a position to give information on the points you raise, and it is open to you to communicate with the Canadian Labor Bureau, 13 Charing Cross, S.W., if you so desire. Not only were circulars from Mr. Preston's office issued to inquirers and others advising artisans and skilled laborers to go to Mr. Leopold, but enquirers who came by the hundreds and thousands to the immigration offices, were turned over to him if they were not agriculturalists. It was very convenient, seeing that the office was next door, and one of Mr. Preston's former clerks had stated that Leopold had the run of the office and used to go in and look over the files of correspondence. That the government office was a recruiting bureau for Leopold's business is proved by a statement of deputy Minister Smart in a memo. dated 7 of March, 1904. Mr. Smart speaking of the immigration offices which he had visited said (Hansard 1906, page 6901): "I found that it was a practice when mechanics or laborers came into the office to seek for information, for them to be referred to the office upstairs." Mr. Smart added: "that this practice undoubtedly gave the impression that there was some connection between the immigration offices of the government and the office known as the Canadian Labor Bureau." The Deputy Minister stated that he had given orders to have this stopped, but as orders and instructions to the same effect had been given many times before it is not likely that they were very effective. At all events we find Mr. Preston a month later writing to a man who had enquired about Leopold's Bureau (Hansard, 1906, page 6901.)

Dear Sir,--I have your letter and as requested am sending you the latest pamphlets dealing with Canada. With regard to your other inquiry, I have some knowledge of the institution to which you refer and I believe it to be quite reliable and capable of carrying out any obligations it may enter into. Yours faithfully W. T. R. PRESTON, Commissioner of Immigration. When Mr. Preston was examined regarding his statements to Mr. Ennis, he did not appear to very good advantage. Mr. Barker read the statement in which Mr. Preston said that the labor which Leopold wished to furnish "for very obvious reasons cannot be handled through the department." (Evidence page 149.) Question. What were the obvious reasons? Answer. The reasons were that labour unions were raising a disturbance here alleging that the immigration of skilled mechanics was likely to upset the wage market. Q. You wrote letters? A. I wrote letters to Mr. Ennis. Q. To help Leopold in that project? A. Quite so. Q. Knowing that the government could not do that sort of thing? A. Knowing that we could not do it, yes. Q. I suppose they could do it if they choose, but it was not policy? A. Perhaps that is a reasonable way to put it. (Page 152) Q. Then you go on "I have very strong reasons for wishing anything of this kind that may be done shall be through the gentleman to whom I have referred." A. Yes. Q. Tell us your reason? A. My strong reasons were my personal intimacy with Leopold, who I explained was a very intimate friend of mine and I was satisfied all the time that whatever was done through him would be done fairly, squarely and honestly. Q. How long had you been intimate with him? A. I had known Leopold then about a year. Q. He was a German Jew. A. Yes. Q. And had you any transactions with him at all? A. No. Q. He had just come over under the name of Louis Leopold. A. Quite so. Q. Alias Lazarus, or Lazarus alias Leopold? A. I did not know anything about Lazarus being his name I think until about two years ago. When Mr. Preston was asked what he meant by telling Mr. Ennis of the

establishment of a labor bureau "by large employers," he said that he must have meant the establishment of a bureau in Canada in connection with the Manufacturers' Association. But when he was further reminded that he had "made enquiries as to its bona fides" he concluded that the bureau must have been on the other side. Finally he said: "I really cannot understand it." Then Mr. Barker questioned him: Q. But who forms the labor bureau you were speaking of? A. Only Leopold. Q. "Although I am not supposed to know anything about the workings of the company, I necessarily made enquiries as to its bona fides." You knew Leopold & Co.? A. I did, he called himself a company. It should be stated that Mr. Preston (Continued on page 8.)

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(Continued from page 1)

ton declares that while he sold were in these intentions on Victoria street and ing Cross he did not know poird was the London agent North Atlantic Trading Co ing part of the time had the whole propaganda of the pany as conducted in English accounts of the North Atla reporting to disclose their tres, mentions large sums paid to Leopold in his office ing Cross, for literature ar vices, but Mr. Preston, who ment has the investigating accounts, says he did not Mr. Preston also pleads the ular above quoted sent ou office to mechanics reco them to apply to Leopold tributed without his know though his clerks declare t trary. He further claim never realised the fact that admin policy opposed the ment of artisan immigrat plea may be considered in of his second letter to Mr. Also, Mr. Preston seem been quite ignorant of the relations between Leopold Arundel Printing Co. In ton's ignorance and simplie a great surprise to himself. (page 196): "I must admit that I what amazed at my own shrewdness in not measur situation some time ago what I have learned in the days that he is now the ag company, and I would be prised if all along they thing to do with the Farr ilitary. Q. Did you know that there to conduct the affa syndicate? A. No, I did not, and prised that I did not strongly suspicious than I Q. Your son-in-law is his A. Solicitor in one case, commended my son-in-law. Q. Mr. Alexander acts his law business? A. I do not think all ness. Q. In law business? A. Yes. Q. At your suggestion? A. Yes. Q. Can you tell us wli timate connection? did not know what that going into so far, as the was concerned? A. I did not. Monk's Resolutio affair and the connectio tion and the Department cior therewith, was also of the committee on Agr Colonisation. Mr. Monk, Jacques Cartier, had cha examination and brought damaging points. The quotations above are part from the records of accounts committee. After the two enquir concluded, Mr. Monk pro House of Commons the solution. In the this House, as was disclosed in the evidence the Committee on Pub and the committee on Ag colonisation, and for W. T. R. Preston, inspe gration, should be no lo ed in that office. Mr. Monk charged a things that Mr. Prest his duty by encouraging mechanics and helping to foster a Canadian burea the standing instruction erment." A Minister's P Mr. Oliver could not charge connecting the department with the bureau. The minister that Mr. Preston had opportunity to present case, though as a mat condemnation as well department rests upon ters and statements an cords of his office. Mr used an investigation clearing that if Pres wrong he should bear He gave a distinct pro would be a full and th gation of the whole n Mr. Preston, would accordingly. (Hansard, 1906, p Mr. Oliver. "The go inform itself very th taking action." P. 5519. Mr. Oliv the government has b ty of investigating lect, the committee me to make a definit