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**The Mail and Advocate.**

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, NOVEMBER 7, 1914.

**Public Sentiment Aroused**

It is rather gratifying to the editor of the Mail and Advocate to notice that the whole city has been stirred to the depths by the revelations made in our issue of November 4th regarding the monstrous action of paying unnecessarily big salaries to certain officials in connection with our contingent of Volunteers now in England.

The matter has developed into a full-sized scandal for which, everybody, no matter what his political connections, is constrained to condemn the powers that be.

And just here let us make a bit of a diversion to define our position on this whole matter of the Volunteer Movement, seeing that the gentlemanly editor of The Daily News this morning has seen fit to refer to "the loyal press of the Colony," thereby implying that some of our newspapers are disloyal.

All our criticisms of this movement have been directed toward the end of rescuing it from the low level of Partyism on which it was placed at its inception in this country.

Our contention has ever been that the Volunteer Movement should have been started in a co-operative manner, Government and Opposition being equally recognized in the matter and the services of the members of both sides availed of, as they could have been, had wisdom prevailed in the counsels of those who set out to organize the Imperial Defence Movement in this country.

This line of conduct, however, was not followed and as the matter was presented to members and followers of the Opposition, they were left either to tag on to a plan already formulated by the Government or to stand aside and let the Party in power proceed along their own lines.

Because of this attitude it has pleased The Honorable John Alexander Robinson to dub us "disloyal" in insinuation, as usual, if not actually in open charge.

And what has happened?

Exactly what this paper predicted long ago. A confounded mess has been made of the whole thing.

Whose fault was it that we have to get a list of our Volunteers from England, instead of having one prepared while our men were here?

Who is to blame for the negligence in making arrangements for the volunteers' pay to be handed over to their relatives as it fell due?

Why is it that, while the pay of members of the Canadian Contingent is coming in regularly to those at home, no payment has yet been made in this country on behalf of members of the First Newfoundland Regiment?

Who is responsible for the whole outrageous mess and muddle? Who, but the members of the Government?

But it is unnecessary for us to pile up evidence of the fact that the authorities here have perpetrated some awful blunders in this connection. Sufficient proof of this fact is contained in an editorial published in The Herald under date of November 5th, and headed "LIFE'S LITTLE IRONIES: Reservist's Families Try to Live on a Penny a Day; Well-to-do Officials Secure Big Salaries."

The writer mentions concrete instances that have come under his notice of families of our men now in training being in actual need because their breadwinners had been taken away from them and expresses the hope that the patriotic committee will look after these deserving cases, but goes on to say "It is certainly no stimulus to them to do so to read in The Mail about men receiving three thousand dollars for more or less ornamental services and to learn, moreover, that these astounding statements are substantially true. . . . The Patriotic Fund has been formed and appeals to the generosity of citizens are being made; but an example must be shown by those in high places that will encourage further subscriptions instead of discouraging them and drying up the wells of public generosity, which, we very much fear will be the result if some of the abuses that are happening of late are not promptly ended. . . . to give men, as we say \$3,000.00 to fill more or less ornamental jobs in the present crisis is a blunder against which the very stones in the streets will cry out in protest."

It is gratifying to have a Government member of the Legislative Council thus assent to the justice of the position we have taken up and to publicly voice his convictions, even at the risk of being dubbed "disloyal" by the oracle of The News.

We notice too, that of all the newspaper editors in this city the Honourable P. T. McGrath was the only one who knew enough to give The Mail and Advocate credit for starting public sentiment expressing itself against this paymaster outrage. Maybe the editor of The Telegram and the editor of The News knew better. If they did it is not apparent in their editorials on this matter. We advise them both to take a comprehensive course in newspaper ethics. At present the principle on which they seem to proceed is one of "You find the cabbage garden and we'll root."

There is one particular aspect of this whole question that must not be lost sight of. The Executive Government of this Colony are responsible for the acts of the Governor. In theory the King can do no wrong; neither can the King's Vicaroy. It is his ministry that must shoulder responsibility for all administrative acts. It is, therefore, very improper for members of the Government to be stating around town that the Governor did this, that or the other thing. The Government have adopted His Excellency's line of action—wise or otherwise—and are absolutely responsible for them.

It is obvious, therefore, that to attempt to saddle the Governor with responsibility for these recent outrageous acts is as unfair as it is unwise.

As an opposition organ we owe no duty to the Governor, except such as may be due his office as representative of the King. The Gov-

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ernment, though, are in a different position, and owe His Excellency their entire allegiance on this matter and on other matters which are adopted as Executive policy.

And, while we are referring to Governor Davidson, we would like to know just why His Excellency is making that tour of Conception Bay. Where are his ministers? In Canada the members of the Government have been drumming up recruits, but we have yet to hear that the Governor-General is undertaking similar work. In the Old Country members of the Government and members of the Opposition are addressing public meetings on behalf of the army, but we haven't heard of His Majesty taking the stump yet.

Why is Governor Davidson setting the precedent in this country? Why, moreover, aren't our ultra-loyal Government taking a hand?

Now, in reference to these Paymaster and Goodridge sensations, on the 4th inst., the following editorial on this matter appeared in this paper:

**Piling It Up**

It is rumored today that the Governor has appointed one Timewell who wandered here some little time ago from goodness knows where and secured a job with a firm of chartered accountants as paymaster of the Newfoundland Regiment at a salary of \$3,100.00 a year, and expenses @paid, with no less than two office assistants at a cost of another \$2,000.00.

This job is unnecessary as the Quartermaster could do every thing in connection with the payments to the troops. The men are not paid direct but through the captains of their companies and all reasonable men are puzzled over the appointment of such an official at such a large salary.

These are the patriots that are working for the Empire in the hour of need!

If such an official was required surely one could have been selected from the regiment well qualified for the work and at one third of the salary which Timewell is to receive.

We ask our readers to note that these appointments have been made by the Governor himself.

We want to know whether the Premier has approved of them or was consulted in connection with them.

We demand a reply from the Premier. We don't believe he would be guilty of such an outrage against our native lads, or would be a party to such a waste of our public moneys, especially when so many are looking for assistance to tide them over the coming winter.

This paymaster, of course, is to have an office in London, which will be the headquarters and there he will smoke his cigars and drink whisky with his two assistants to dance to his tune.

To the above outrage another has been added by Governor Davidson, for rumor again asserts that Alan Goodridge is to go across in charge of the Naval Reserve Men, and his work as Deputy Minister of Marine & Fisheries, which he has not attended to for months, is to look after itself.

For weeks he has seldom been at his place in the Fishery Department. He has been made Governor's Secretary and report says he is drawing that salary in addition to what he receives as Deputy Minister.

He is also drawing the salary of \$600.00 per year which was formerly paid to Judge Prowse as Secretary of the Fishery Board.

Thus Alan Goodridge is drawing about \$3,200.00 per year when he should receive about \$1,200.00, the Deputy's pay, and he is now to get a picnic to England, and probably a year's leave of absence.

Is it possible that public opinion will tolerate such outrages?

The Herald editorial from which we quoted in the opening paragraphs of this article appeared in the issue of that paper of November 5th. The following day the two appended articles, "Capt. Timewell's Case," and "Capt. Goodridge's Case," appeared in The Herald editorial columns, and we quote them in full as backing up the stand we previously took up on this matter.

**THOSE BIG SALARIES**

**Captain Timewell's Case**

With reference to the case of Capt. Timewell, Paymaster of the First Newfoundland Regiment, which is being made the subject of much criticism at the present time, because of the large amount which he is receiving for his services in that capacity, we think it only fair, in justice to the firm of G. N. Read, Son & Watson, with which he was connected, to make certain facts clear so that the position of that concern may not be misunderstood as we find it is being.

Messrs. Read, Son and Watson, who are chartered accountants, doing business in this city, very kindly undertook when the Colony was entering into its military venture, to do the book-keeping connected with the undertaking free of charge. That was a very generous offer on their part, and anyone who knows what the promise involved will agree that they have entered upon a task which represents a very real and substantial advantage to the Colony.

It is merely incidental, however, that Capt. Timewell, the Paymaster of the Regiment, happens to have been associated with the firm. If there was no Mr. Timewell here at all the Accounting Company would be doing exactly the same work that it is doing now. The regiment, however, would require a Paymaster, whoever he might be, and that Paymaster would have to be paid the salary attaching to the rank in Canada. That salary is \$3,000 a day and 75 cents a day as "field allowance," which, roundly, is a bonus paid to every rank in a regiment when on active service, from 10 cents for a private up to \$2 for a colonel, but is not an allowance for meals, which are furnished free.

Capt. Timewell's \$3.75 a day was the same as Capt. Franklin, Carty, Rendell, O'Brien, Bernard and others of the Regiment are getting. The cause of objection in Capt. Timewell's case is that at the last moment, a day or two before he left here, when the regiment was on the other side of the Atlantic, he was granted a special allowance from the authorities here of £1 or \$5 a day in addition to his salary, or a sum of \$1,825 in excess of what the others are getting. In other words, Capt. Timewell gets \$3,194 a year and the other officers named get \$1,379.

This proposition we may say, was not put through the regular channel, as previous ones were, which after revision and alteration were approved and passed on to the Government, which in due course endorsed them and gave them legal validity by Order-in-Council.

In Captain Timewell's case the Government appear to have misunderstood the situation and approved of this allowance under a mistaken idea of what it involved, but more than a week ago when their attention was called to the matter, steps were taken to pu matters right.

**Capt. Goodridge's Case**

With reference to Captain Goodridge, whose case is exciting equal comment, the facts appear to be as follows:—Captain Goodridge as Deputy Minister of Fisheries, receives \$1,400 a year, with an allowance of \$100 a year for the preparing of

the annual report of the Department. In addition he is local registrar of the Royal Naval Reserve, for which he receives \$250.

On the death of Judge Prowse last winter, who had \$400 as Secretary of the Fishery Board, Mr. Goodridge appears to have taken over the work and drawn the salary.

This, however, was done without the knowledge of the Executive Government, and a meeting on Tuesday night when the fact was learned, an order was issued that Mr. Goodridge must not take any more of this money and must return what he had already received.

Since the first of August, when the war began, and Capt. Moore, the Governor's Secretary, went to England to rejoin his regiment, Mr. Goodridge has been acting as Private Secretary to the Governor under an arrangement by which he takes two-thirds of this salary, or \$600, the other \$300 going to Mr. George Cake, the Governor's clerk.

Until this week, therefore, Mr. Goodridge was drawing four salaries aggregating \$2,750 a year and the great bulk of his work in the Fisheries Department had to be done by the other officials there, without their getting anything extra for this.

It would seem only reasonable to argue that at this time, when patriotic sacrifices are asked from other people, Capt. Goodridge, already in receipt of two salaries legitimately, should do the secretarial work at Government House for nothing, more especially as last week a meeting of the Permanent Heads of the Civil Service was held, at which it was decided to draw up a circular and send it to every public official in the Government Service throughout the Colony, appealing to them to contribute 50 cents out of every \$100 of their salary towards the Patriotic Fund.

Surely, if the outport tidewater, who gets \$400 a year is to be asked to contribute his quota in a national emergency, it is a monstrous injustice that Capt. Goodridge should be able to secure \$600 for the largely ornamental duties performed by him at Government House, in addition to \$1,750 of which he is already in receipt.

Yesterday—the 6th—The Telegram, too, made a very emphatic pronouncement on the matter and its editorial comments are quoted below:

**Remedy Demanded And Demanded At Once**

"We have been and are still strong in our opinion that it is the duty of Newfoundland to respond to the call for men both for the Army and Navy, just as it is the duty of the men of England and other parts of the Empire to respond and to respond quickly to the call. About 1,000 men have already left our shores and are now doing their duty to their King and country."

A large number of the men who were in training at Pleasantville when they received their pay paid it over or most of it to their wives, mothers, or others who were more or less dependent on them.

Since these men left by the s.s. Florizel the dependents have not received any part of the pay on which they were relying. There are women and children in this city at present in severe straits and who have made efforts many times to get this deferred pay and have not yet received a cent since the Florizel left.

If there is one duty more incumbent on those that remain more than another, it is the duty to look after the wives, children and other dependents of those who have offered their lives for the country.

Many of these men have thrown up good jobs to do their "bit" for their country, and it is the least we can do for them to see that those dependent on them do not starve.

A particular case was given to us this morning where two sons wrote their mother saying they were each allowing her Four Dollars a week.

The stupidity of the business is that the Government is providing pay for our soldiers, and owing to mismanagement, that pay has not been available since the volunteer contingent left. A form was drafted and the understanding was that each man would sign it before he left. This was not done. We do not know the reason. In any case it should have been done. It should have taken precedence of everything else. For the first care should have been the provision for those left behind by our fighters, and every chance of any dependent being brought to the verge of want should have been avoided at all costs.

A paymaster had been appointed soon after the contingent was embodied, and he was provided with three persons to help him. These forms were not filled in, and the contingent left without any authority being left behind them for the payment of part of the pay to dependents.

Then it was arranged that the forms should be filled up while the contingent were crossing the Atlantic and then sent back here. Whether this was done or not we have not heard, but we are informed that so far, although there has been ample time to receive them, they have not yet been received here.

These filled-up forms would have been sent to the Finance Office, and handed over to Mr. George Bursell, first clerk, who would have passed the account through the finance office, and paid the money. Mr. Bursell had patriotically offered to do "his bit" for the country by doing this work gratuitously.

This, then, is the position of affairs, and the dependents of these five hundred men have been left to do the best they can to keep themselves alive, and all through mismanagement. It is enough to make one's blood boil.

The situation is aggravated by the fact that the Government is paying an extravagant sum to the paymaster, Mr. Timewell, and made paymaster. This was his sole work. He has not to go to the firing line, his duty is to look after the pay. At first he was given the pay of a paymaster, directly on the eve of his leaving, on the Canadian scale. That is three dollars a day, and seventy-five cents a day field allowance.

The Pay Office of a battalion of 800 to 1,000 men in the British Army is run for about \$300 a year. We are paying more than ten times this to the Paymaster of half a battalion. The Adjutant is Acting Paymaster. It is part of his work. Each Company captain is responsible for the pay list of his company. This is drawn up by the Company Color-Sergeant who gets 36c. a day extra for it. A monthly requisition is sent to the Adjutant for the cash required to pay the men. The Adjutant draws the cheque and hands over the cash. The staff in the pay office or orderly room deals with pay matters. A Sergeant is employed who gets 24 cents a day extra, and a Lance-Corporal is employed who gets 12 cents a day extra.

The pay of the battalion costs 36 cents a day. Roughly speaking the whole pay office work of a battalion is done for \$300 a year extra. We understand some such arrangement was made for our battalion by the C.O. Capt. Alexander. If an extra officer is needed as Paymaster, in the absence of a civil service officer, then his pay should be what the Patriotic Committee were given to understand it was going to be, viz., \$3.75 a day, what a Canadian Paymaster is paid.

As he have only half a battalion to look after, this seems adequate. But he was not satisfied, and the Governor in Council, passed a Minute of Council and sent it to the Finance Committee of the Patriotic Committee authorizing the payment to him of an extra Five Dollars a day. He is thus receiving Eight dollars and seventy-five cents (\$8.75) a day, or \$3,200 a year.

Now, why should he be receiving more than double the pay and allow-

ance of a Canadian paymaster. It will be interesting also to contrast this rate of pay with that of paymasters in the Royal Navy.

An Assistant Paymaster begins at £19, and rises to £210. A Paymaster begins at £255 and rises to £602. The Paymaster of our forces is receiving at starting more than twice the amount he would secure if he had been promoted from Assistant Paymaster in the Navy. He is receiving more than a Paymaster receives who had risen to the highest seniority as Paymaster, and gets within \$200 a year as much as the Paymaster-in-Chief of the Whole Royal Navy.

We pay the Deputy Finance Minister who has charge of the whole of our expenditure \$1,800 a year, and \$3,200 to the man who is looking after the payments in connection with the Contingent.

We pay \$2,000 to the Auditor General who controls the whole of our expenditure, and \$3,200 to Capt. Timewell.

We pay \$1,200 to the Assistant Auditor General, who has a much more responsible position, and more than two and a half times the amount to the Paymaster of our forces, and all the while wives, children, mothers and sisters of our soldiers are crying out for the money which is due to them, and which is necessary to feed and house them, and all because the Paymaster's forms were not filled up before the Contingent left.

In the name of the people who have sent these soldiers, in the name of soldiers who have gone to fight at the front, in the name of the wives, children, mothers and other dependents left behind, we demand a speedy remedy. We demand that provisional payment be made immediately to these dependents.

We insist on the rescission of the Order-in-Council making these extravagant allowances to Captain Timewell, and the placing of his rate of pay at not more than Canada allows.

What will recompense a Canadian paymaster should recompense ours. This should be done, and done immediately.

The Honorable John Alexander, of The Daily News, rings in as tail-end on this matter. He can hardly believe that the charge made by The Mail and Advocate is true, but he'll see, and declares with righteous indignation, that the matter is set right. His remarks his morning follow:

**The Paymaster's Protest**

AS to the alleged payment of Captain Timewell, of a Captain's rate of pay and \$5.00 a day extra, despite the assertion, we decline to believe it. Such a thing would be too silly. There can be no conceivable reason for it, and even the shallowest reason of all—expediency.

If it is necessary to have a paid paymaster in the Old Country—and we doubt it—he should be either the adjutant of the regiment, at the regular rate of pay, or else an unadorned civilian. Captain Timewell, it appears, is not going to the front. Then, why in the world could not one of our Volunteers, who were rejected on health grounds, have taken the position, if such was necessary?

Why, indeed, such a cent of salary have been required? There are plenty of civil servants competent for the work; one of these could have been selected; the patriotism enough would be found amongst his fellow clerks, to willing share the office burdens during his absence. It would be "doing their bit," as Mr. Bursell offered to do his, and as hundreds of others would be equally willing.

The "Telegram," accepting the statement that Mr. Timewell is obtaining a colossal salary, says: "We insist on the rescission of the Order-in-Council making these extravagant allowances to Captain Timewell, and the placing of his rate of pay at not more than Canada allows."

(Continued on page 6)