

Auditor General's Report—Part N

service to be discontinued, and accordingly a temporary arrangement was made with Mr. Kerfoot, who, it appears, owned or controlled a large portion of the horses and plant being used by Mr. Fulmer.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

The Auditor General.

R. M. COULTER, *D.P.G.*

No Salary during Period of Suspension.

AUDIT OFFICE, OTTAWA, December 23, 1898.

SIR,—I have just received a copy of the Order in Council of the 16th December, which deals with the case of Mr. J. E. Gervais, one of your outside service employees. He was apparently suspended on 16th September, 1897, and dismissed on 26th November, 1897.

In this connection I would draw your attention to section 50, subsection *b* of the Civil Service Act, which makes it illegal to give pay to a person for the time of his suspension. Manifestly, pay to the wife of a clerk is as illegal as paying the clerk himself.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

The Deputy Postmaster General.

J. L. McDOUGALL, *A.G.*

Carriage of Mails between Lévis and Montreal—Grand Trunk.

AUDIT OFFICE, OTTAWA, January 19, 1899.

SIR,—It appears from the vouchers sent me in support of the expenditure during the fiscal year 1897-98 for mail service by railway, that the Intercolonial Railway was paid a mileage rate between Lévis and Montreal over the Drummond County road, from February 20, 1898.

I presume that the through mails from the maritime provinces, or at least that portion of them previously sent over the Intercolonial to Lévis were from this date carried direct to Montreal without transfer at Lévis to the Grand Trunk mail cars.

The change thus effected in the transport of the eastern mails westward must have relieved the Grand Trunk of the greater portion of its mail service between Lévis and Montreal, but I do not find that any corresponding deduction has been made in the mileage rate over the portion of the line affected.

I bring this matter to your notice because it seems to me the rate at which payment is now made—\$160 per mile per annum—must be exorbitant, if it was only a fair and reasonable remuneration when the through mails had to be provided for and carried to Montreal.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

The Deputy Postmaster General.

J. L. McDOUGALL, *A.G.*

Advance to Post Office Inspector, Toronto, not accounted for.

AUDIT OFFICE, OTTAWA, February 2, 1899.

SIR,—A cheque for \$20 was issued in favour of Mr. J. Henderson, post office inspector at Toronto, last year, which is described on the voucher sent me as "an advance for use in test letters." Please let me know if any further vouchers as to the disposition of this amount have been received by the department.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

The Deputy Postmaster General.

J. L. McDOUGALL, *A.G.*

POST OFFICE DEPT., OTTAWA, February 7, 1899.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge your letter of February 2nd, in which you state that a cheque for \$20 was issued in favour of Mr. J. Henderson, post office inspector at Toronto, last year, which is described on the voucher sent you as "an advance for use in test letters," and asking if any further vouchers as to the disposition of this amount have been received at the department, and to state that no such vouchers have been received.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

The Auditor General.

R. M. COULTER, *D.P.G.*