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(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., NOV. 9, 1914.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Was, Maybe, Overlooked?

ALTHOUGH so many committees were appointed, and so varied were the duties assigned them, it is now quite plain that the Government should have appointed just one more, in connection with the Volunteer movement, i.e. an Anti-Bungling Committee.

Such a committee might have seen to it that all arrangements for the payment of the men were complete and would have insured the feeding of the volunteers on the Florizel that Sunday before she sailed, not to mention the bungling in connection with the payment of Timewell.

Kept Rolling

THE ball of criticism of the huge allowance to Capt. Timewell, as Paymaster of the First Newfoundland Regiment, having been set-rolling by *The Mail and Advocate*, is being kept moving in lively fashion by our Government contemporaries *The Herald* and *The News*.

Whether these newspapers are speaking as they do from conviction, or are merely lining up with us because of the general public clamor against the outrageous arrangement, we are not prepared to say, but at any rate they are certainly hammering those responsible for the arrangement in good style.

As to responsibility, it seems that the Finance Committee of the Volunteer movement did not make the arrangement for paying Capt. Timewell, being notified of it by His Excellency the Governor, so that the responsibility evidently rests with the Premier, who, naturally, involves his associates in the Executive Government.

Discussing 'The Timewell Case' on Saturday, *The Herald* said editorially:

"With reference to this matter and to the observations of *The Daily News* this morning, we can say with absolute certainty, that our statement that Captain Timewell, Paymaster of the First Newfoundland Regiment, has been granted an allowance of one pound, or five dollars a day, in addition to his pay and also travelling expenses when on regimental business," is critically correct. More than this, it seems unnecessary to say at the present time.

"We do not know nor have we been able to find out (though we have tried hard to do so), why Capt. Timewell was given this allowance, or why he is not going to the front with the regiment, or where he is going to locate, or what other duties he is going to perform, or what duties he can perform, apart from supervising the payment of about \$7,000.00 to the men of the Regiment once a month.

"The fact is overlooked that probably two-thirds of the total pay roll—about \$20,000.00 a month—will be allotted by

the men of the Regiment to their dependents here. This money will be paid here and it is the crowning irony of the whole transaction that Mr. Geo. Bursell, of the Treasury Department, who very generously volunteered his services, will pay this amount, two-thirds of the total without remuneration whatever, while Captain Timewell will supervise the paying of the other third and get \$3,194.00 a year for doing it.

"It was clearly understood before Captain Timewell left that the other expenses of the Regiment—provisioning, transport, etc., would be assumed by the British military authorities and that whatever the cost would be the British Government would ultimately bill the Colony for and be paid direct Under these circumstances, then, while we recognize that Captain Timewell as an expert accountant, would be entitled to generous remuneration, the provision made for him seems altogether out of proportion to the character of the work which he has to do.

"Surely it ought to have been possible to have got Gerald Harvey or Frank Knight, or Len Stick, or Jack Cliff, or any other of the young chaps from Water Street business houses or banks, who shouldered their muskets like men and went forward as privates, to act as paymaster of this Regiment at \$3.75 a day, without having to pay this strange gentleman that amount and \$5.00 per day besides."

TO THE EDITOR

Sir Edward Morris Gives an Explanation

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir,—Having regard to the references which have been made the past few days in the press concerning certain allowances to Captain Timewell, Regimental Paymaster, First Newfoundland Regiment, it is, I think, proper that the facts, as far as they are known to me, should be made public.

Captain Timewell having been appointed in the regular way Paymaster of the Regiment, the salary fixed for him was \$3.00 per day and 75 cents per day field allowance. This \$3.75 per day was the same rate as that allowed the other captains.

Wanted a Pound a Day. Before leaving here for England Captain Timewell represented to the Government that an allowance of one pound per day would be a reasonable amount for personal expenses to maintain himself outside the Regimental Mess when the Contingent was at the front, and to cover expenses which other officers have not to incur.

Under such circumstances, and assuming it was necessary and usual for Captain Timewell to live apart from the Regiment, and the fee suggested what is paid by Canada and other countries, it was thought that One Pound per day, in addition to travelling expenses, would meet the case and, accordingly, on Thursday, Oct. 22nd, a day or so before Captain Timewell sailed for England, this amount was agreed to by the Government.

Subsequently, however, the question was further considered and on November 2nd I wrote His Excellency the Governor as follows:

To His Excellency. Sir,—Following upon our conversation of this morning in relation to allowances to Captain Timewell, I desire to suggest, for the consideration of your Excellency whether it would not be wise to communicate with Capt. Timewell at the earliest possible moment that it is the opinion of the Government, after carefully considering the question of allowances made him, that the first order namely Field Allowance 75 cents per day and pay of

\$3.00 a day as Captain, is ample remuneration for the services rendered by him, having regard to the rate paid other officers; and that, in addition, his expenses when incurred in travelling on the business of the Regiment while in England or elsewhere, certified by his proper officer, shall also be paid him; but that the One Pound per day allowance was never contemplated as a continuous payment.

Further, in the opinion of the Government having regard to the very large proportion of the War Fund which will have to be administered in this country by payment to the relatives of the members of the Regiment here, through one of our public offices, there will be no need for him to open an office in England or at the front.

The amount of actual work performed is not great, considering that he pays the money, not to the individual men, but to the Captains of the various companies, who in turn pay the men under them and in turn take the regular receipts.

The Bank of Montreal has already opened a branch of their business at Salisbury Plain and I have no doubt would be glad to keep his accounts and do it free of charge; not alone while the men are there, but when they are at the front. When at the front there will be no difficulty in his drawing the money from the nearest bank in France or Belgium or Germany and get it through the Bank of Montreal in London.

Under these circumstances it seems to me that Captain Timewell should mess with the other officers and remain permanently with them wherever they may be.

E. P. MORRIS, Prime Minister.

The contents of this letter have since been conveyed to Captain Timewell by His Excellency the Governor.

Yours truly, E. P. MORRIS.

Prime Minister's Office, St. John's, Nfld., Nov. 7, 1914.

Defends Paymaster

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir,—I should like to give my views regarding the present newspaper campaign against Captain Timewell, Paymaster. As Quartermaster, I saw something of his work, and I say without hesitation that no department of the Regiment was more painstakingly and conscientiously managed than his. A more methodical and thorough man I have never met, and evidence of this is shown by the systems, printed forms, etc., which he devised for all the departments, and which proved so helpful. His training as accountant qualified him well for this work, so essential for ensuring the orderly and economical management of the Regiment. I know of no officer or man who could have done it nearly so well.

Not His Fault.

It was through no fault of his that the allotment papers were not completed. He drew them up long before the Regiment sailed, and he made many efforts to have them filled in. Why the company officers did not or could not attend to this, I am unable to say, but I know that Captain Timewell was very much worried about it. He was working all day and nearly all night, and could not even say good-bye at the last moment to his friends. Nevertheless he found time to listen sympathetically to clergymen, Salvation Army officers, and others who interviewed him on behalf of 'needy wives and dependents.'

Out of His Own Pocket.

I saw him in some instances advancing money out of his own pocket, and trusting to be able to adjust the matter when he arrived in England. He did this in spite of the fact that the men had been paid before they left a few days previously, and ought to have provided for their dependents themselves.

The above gives an idea of Captain Timewell's work before he left, as I saw it. Now it is found that an allowance

to him, which we do not understand, has been authorized. Personally, I feel sure that if Captain Timewell applied for it he intended it to cover anticipated necessary expenditure.

Give Him a Trial.

We all boast of a love of British fair play. Why should he be condemned without trial? Why should his good name be attacked? Why should he be stabbed in the dark by writers who have not the courage to sign their own names? Why not first be given an opportunity to explain?

I do not think that anyone is in a position to define what the duties of the Paymaster will be in England. Some think they can be carried out by his Sergeant, who is an excellent clerk. I doubt it. But I feel sure if a Paymaster is found to be unnecessary for our Regiment, Captain Timewell will not be slow to say so.

H. OUTERBRIDGE, Captain and Quartermaster, 1st Nfld. Regiment, St. John's, Nov. 8.

Paying Patriotism

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Sir,—Mr. Outerbridge defends Mr. Timewell. Does he also defend Mr. Timewell's assistants? Does he defend also the fact that the suppliers to the Newfoundland Regiment were paid \$1.65 per hundred pounds more for their sugar than they tendered for and 15 cents per pound more for their tea, and that Hartley's Jams and Marmalade were tendered for and cheap stuff in palls delivered in place of it, of such inferior quality that M. A. Bas told the same by auction as the men would not use it.

This patriotism is on a par with the hargling of outrageous prices to our Volunteers on the Florizel on the way across, although the Government has to pay \$35.00 per head passage money.

There should be no men employed by the Government on salaries in connection with the Regiment in England, who don't intend to go to the front. How can a man be expected to give a portion of his hard earned wages to any local patriotic fund under these circumstances.

PRO PATRIA.

Fearless For Right

(Editor Mail and Advocate) Dear Sir,—The talk of the town just now, as you are aware, is in relation to the Timewell and other scandals, and in connection with this is the feeling of strong disapproval, which the public manifests towards the various sections of the press, *The Herald*, *Telegram* and *News*, that are trying to rob the fearless "Mail and Advocate" of its just merit, in being the paper to have revealed the scandal.

Instead of reaping plaudits or merit of any kind, those papers have succeeded only in making themselves hateful, for the people of this town are appreciative of a manly attitude, whether of the press or individuals. It is highly probable that were it not for *The Mail and Advocate* exposing the crime, not one word would we hear from either *The Telegram*, *Herald* or *News* about the matter.

I call it a "crime" for it is little short of criminal to have given a big salary to Timewell, out of a very thin purse, and especially as poor people are denying themselves, that they may do, what they regard as their duty, by giving from their scanty store a something towards the comfort and support of our soldiers.

To the credit of *The Herald*, be it said, that that paper did mention the fact, that the statements made by *The Mail and Advocate* are substantially true.

The Mail and Advocate is deserving of all praise for its uncompromising attitude towards graft and wrong doing, and let the other papers trim themselves to the gale that they find has set up, they are after all, but patri-trimmers to what they have been

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London Daily Telegraph:—We are fighting the cause of freedom, and, though we cannot always count on fortune favoring us, yet if we who are ashore prove as resolute and steadfast and brave as our sailors afloat and as our men at arms engaged on the great battlefield on the Continent, that cause is assured of ultimate triumph.

COULD ENGLAND REFUSE?

Boston Globe:—If Russia should seek to add to its ice-blocked harbors more harbors, giving easy access to the North Sea and the Mediterranean

Sea, and to add more territory, making it a connected Empire stretching almost from the Pacific to the Atlantic, would not England feel that the fabric of her Empire is threatened? Could France and England refuse Russia? Or would there be a new Triple Entente, without Russia and Germany?

MAY EXTINGUISH AGITATIONS

London Chronicle:—Most of us hope that the conclusion of the war will, among other things, extinguish the "irredentist" agitations of South-Eastern Europe by satisfying them. The existence of Austria-Hungary, as we have known it in the past, has not been without advantages for the equilibrium of Europe; but its fatal drawback has been that it constituted a standing denial of the national aspirations of all the surrounding peoples.

READ THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Notice to Fishermen

All Union fishermen are requested to call at the President's office to learn prices of Shore and Labrador fish immediately upon arrival here. No Union member should sell a quintal of fish from now to the close of the fall, except through the Union.

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Just received, a shipment of

Choice Creamery Butter in 14 and 28 lb. Boxes

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