

Justice To Whom Justice Is Due

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—Having some knowledge of the working of the internment operations at Ottawa under the director, Sir William Dillon Otter, K.C.B., C.V.O., I was somewhat surprised at the commotion made by one of your contemporaries in the case of the release of a German sailor, Karl Gustav Schauer, as not having any escort from the Amherst Camp on his journey to New York. I can assure the general public that they need not have any misgivings as to any danger in the transportation of this prisoner. I am confident that every precaution was taken by the director that the authorities should be in touch with this man from the moment he stepped out of the camp to that when he would reach his destination in New York. If any one thinks he can get past the Director of Internment Operations in the release and conduct in transportation of prisoners, he is making a big mistake. It might be stated that whenever the Minister of Justice is appealed to for the release or expatriation of a prisoner, he invariably refers the same to the Director of Internment Operations, who has the man's history in every particular, from the moment of his arrest, and if the Department of Justice is satisfied they notify the director that the release is desired, so that he is not responsible for what the Department of Justice may decide. But in the conduct of the transportation of prisoners it is absolutely impossible that greater care can be taken with such. The subject in question has a fatal disease, is, in fact, in rapid consumption, and from that has a defective intellect, and, as your contemporary stated, "was too sick to pay much attention to anything." There has been too much made of this case, which is nothing short of a "tempest

In a teapot." I can, with the utmost confidence state, having the knowledge of the same, that there is nothing to be desired in the executive of the office of the Director of Internment Operations at Ottawa under the able control of the venerable veteran soldier and his efficient staff. He is a strict disciplinarian, but this is coupled with a kindness of heart which is often manifested in his treatment of the wives and children of the interned prisoners to whom he has authority to make allowances for their maintenance. He has under his charge military, naval and civilian prisoners, and I can speak of his uniform kindness and consideration, especially in cases of distress.

Yours, truly,

VIGILANT.

Montreal, Sept. 2, 1918.