

# CLOSE OFFICE OF GERMAN CONSUL IN TORONTO SOON

Notification Expected Either  
From the German or the  
British Government.

MR. J. H. PETERS WILL  
REMAIN IN THE CITY

He Is Not a Consul by Profes-  
sion — Simply Acting  
for Convenience.

One outcome of the war between Great Britain and Germany will be the closing of the German Consular office in Toronto. While no official communication that a state of war exists has as yet reached the office, it is expected hourly that the German Government or the British Government, through Ottawa, may withdraw the "exequatur," the official permission to carry on consular business here. When this order arrives all the archives and documents will be placed in the hands of the consul of some friendly power, which will be asked to look after the German subjects here.

As already the United States ambassadors in Europe have been asked to act for Germany, it is likely that the American Consul in Toronto, Mr. Julius Dreher, will act here. This, too, would practically be the only solution, as the other consuls in Toronto are nearly all representing powers at war with Germany, or as in the case of Switzerland, likely to be at war, through the defence of their territory.

## Consul Will Remain in City.

Mr. J. H. Peters, German Consul, will not be obliged, however, to leave the country. That regulation applies only to one class of consuls, those who are consuls by calling and not permitted to engage in any business or undertake any real estate or other transactions. Mr. Peters is in business in Toronto and his position as consul is merely an additional to his regular commercial work.

## Switzerland to Repel Invader.

The possibility of Switzerland being engaged in a defensive war, as the outcome of the European embroglio, was expressed by Mr. G. G. Wolfrom, of the Swiss consulate, to The Star to-day. He pointed out that after the conclusion of the Napoleonic wars the neutrality and integrity of Switzerland was guaranteed by the Congress of Vienna in 1815, of which Germany was one of the contracting parties. The effect of this would be that the Swiss would resist any attempt on the part of either France or Germany to make use of Switzerland as a short cut by which to enter the territory of their opponent.

Mr. Albert Nordheimer, consul to the Netherlands, stated that he had no official communication to-day and that there was nothing to report from his office.