

WINK GERMAN SPY OPERATED IN WEST

**Alleged to Have Secured Complete Knowledge of Country
—Held Secret Meetings.**

Did a German secret service agent
operate through Canada nearly two years
ago?

Did the German government get a
complete report of conditions here and
in western Canada at that time?

Did one of Winnipeg's well-known
residents of foreign origin assist this
spy?

These are pertinent questions which it
ought be well to investigate. The Free
Press received some interesting information
along this line this morning.

It is almost certain that a German
spy did spend six months in western
Canada using Winnipeg as his headquarters.
This was learned from a
foreign-born citizen here who has absolutely
no reason for creating a fabrication
and who is in a position to know
what he is talking about. His name
cannot be used in this story for obvious
reasons, but if the military authorities
desire further information the Free
Press is in a position to assist them.

Travelled Extensively.

Approximately a year ago last Christmas
a German officer arrived in Winnipeg
and held meetings with several
of his countrymen here. These were
held in secret and just what went on is
not known. It is certain that he travelled
through the west extensively and
that he obtained the privilege of using
the consular rate in his travels. Further
it is known from statements he made
that his expenses were paid by the
government of the kaiser and that he
had an unlimited expense account.

He visited all the prominent cities in
western Canada. He inspected bridges
and telegraph communication. He visited
fortifications and barracks. With
the assistance of his countrymen he
obtained an idea of the military organization
and equipment in the west. He
found out how many Germans there
were in Canada and, again by use of his
assistants, discovered how they felt toward
their country and what chance
there was of their taking up arms on
Germany's behalf in time of war. He
made a thorough investigation of everything
which his government wished to
know. Whether or not he started the
organization of the Germans in Canada
is not known. Whether he arranged
for the secret arming of these men is
a question. It is known that he was a
German officer, higher up, and that he
took copious notes of a secret nature
wherever he went.

He was here for six months and
whenever he was in Winnipeg he held
secret meetings with local men of his
own nationality. There was always an
air of mystery about these meetings.
Money was spent lavishly at these
times and though the meetings were
held in a very ordinary house the quantity
and quality of the food brought in
would make the "Four Hundred" sit up
and take notice. One night he quietly
boarded an eastbound train and was
heard of no more.