

DR. KOHLMAN IS BACK IN TORONTO, GOING TO EUROPE

Denies That He Had Water-works Plans in His Possession.

WROTE TO BORDEN
AND GOT PERMIT

Government Quotes Much-Dis-
cussed Order-in-Council
of August 15.

Dr. Erwin Kohlman, formerly employed at the Works Department, City Hall, called on The Star this afternoon to deny the report that waterworks plans were found in his room by the police. "I did no work for the Waterworks Department," he said, "and the only sets of blueprints I had were those of the septic tank at the Industrial farm and of the Imhoff tanks and grit chamber for the Morley avenue sewage plant, and some equally inoffensive new proposals. These were kept for my own reference, and the works concerned were not such as would make the possession of such plans dangerous in anyone's hands. These plans are in my trunk, so the police could not have found them in my room. Anyone may search my room at 214 Jarvis street, Marlborough Hotel, for plans at any time."

Dr. Kohlman has been on a farm 80 miles east of Toronto with an American friend, but came to Toronto to await an answer from the British ambassador at Washington to certain questions which he addressed to him. "As soon as I get a favorable reply I will leave for Spain via the United States.

"I got permission to leave Canada by writing personally to Sir Robert Borden, pointing out that I had done valuable work for Toronto by enabling cheaper construction of the North Toronto trunk sewers, and that the order-in-Council which compelled my dismissal was in opposition to the clause in the King's proclamation concerning the treatment of aliens in Canada.

"I received a reply which granted me permission to leave Canada, and which pointed out that my dismissal was not due to the Order-in-Council, but was a local municipal action."

The text of the reply is especially interesting at the present juncture, because it refers to the Order-in-Council which has been quoted in connection with the University Board's action towards its professors. The letter, signed by W. D. Scott, Superintendent of Immigration, says:

"In consideration of the statements contained in your letter of the 17th inst. addressed to Sir Robert Borden, I may say that the present letter will be the authority for any Canadian immigration officer on the border to permit you to leave Canada. You should carry the letter, and upon its presentation the inspector will take it up and return it to the department.

Perhaps I may point out to you that the cause of your trouble at To-

ronto was not the proclamation of August 15, which provides that persons of German or Austro-Hungarian birth and citizenship were not to be molested if quietly pursuing their usual avocations. Your dismissal at Toronto was occasioned entirely through a municipal regulation, and I am sorry to learn of your difficulties, but trust you will be able to secure employment in the United States."

Inspector Kennedy Declines.

"I offered to let Inspector Kennedy search my room," said Dr. Kohlman this afternoon, "and he said he had no occasion to do so and had not done so."

Dr. Kohlman is not a graduate of Heidelberg, as has been stated, but of Hanover, Berlin, Danzig, and Dresden.

Surprise at City Hall.

There was surprise at the City Hall when it was learned that Dr. Kohlman had been given a permit by the Government.

"I do not know how he got it," said Mayor Hocken. "I did not know he was leaving the country."

"I knew he wanted to go to the States," said Work Commissioner Harris, who had Kohlman in his employ. "He told me he wanted to go to Harvard to take a post-graduate course, but I do not know how he got the permit."

Dr. Kohlman's case was used as a precedent by a man named Schwartz, an Austrian chemist, who was let out by the Consumers' Gas Company. Schwartz wanted to get across the border, and he wrote to the Ottawa authorities, asking for a permit, citing Kohlman's case. He got it.