

WHERE STANDS MAN BORN IN ALSACE?

Auguste Dresche Claims He is Not a German.

As a result of claiming exemption from military service on the grounds that he is not a British subject, Auguste Dresche, 74 O'Connor street, has got himself into difficulties with the Dominion Police. He has been held in custody since Saturday and will be arraigned in Police Court Tuesday morning on a charge of "being an enemy of alien nationality, you failed to report to the registrar of the district, and there give an account of yourself when the proclamation ordering alien enemies in Canada to make such reports was published in the "Canada Gazette."

This publication of the Order-in-Council, was made about three years ago and, it is alleged Dresche has never made any report to the registrar.

A few days before he was arrested by the Dominion Police, Dresche appeared before local exemption tribunal No. 232, which is presided over by W. P. Lett and J. C. S. Wolff, and claimed exemption on the grounds that he was born in Alsace and not having been naturalized is therefore not a British subject. He was ordered by the tribunal to forward his declaration to the registrar and it is understood that it was in this way the Dominion authorities were informed of his neglect to comply with the provisions of the Order-in-Council governing alien enemies in this country.

The authorities are not satisfied as to Dresche's nationality and are in doubt as to whether it is French or German. The accused, however, claims he was born in Alsace and is of French parentage. It is said that he also claims that in the war of 1870 his father fought in the French army. However, even if he is of French descent, he would be obliged under the Order-in-Council governing alien enemies in Canada to report to the registrar because of the fact that he was born in Alsace while that province was under German rule.