

BOARDS TO INTERN DANGEROUS ALIENS

Hamilton Representatives Urge Government to Take Some Action

(Staff Correspondence of The Globe.)
Ottawa, Feb. 12.—After a Hamilton deputation representing manufacturing, mercantile and labor interests asked the Government to take some action in view of the unrest created in their city by the presence of several thousand Austrians and Bulgarians, Sir Thomas White, Acting Prime Minister, informed the deputation that local boards or tribunals would be created to determine in a summary manner which enemy aliens were undesirable and dangerous, with a view to their internment and ultimate deportation.

There are very few Germans in Hamilton, it was stated by the delegation, but the presence and employment of enemy aliens were a constant source of irritation to war veterans and the labor community generally. It was stated that a study of criminal statistics in Hamilton showed that a large number of these aliens figured prominently in the police courts for disturbances and offenses of one kind or another.

It was suggested to the Government that a local board composed of representative elements of Hamilton's life should be created to pass on the desirability of the continued residence of the enemy aliens in question in Canada.

It was pointed out to them by the Acting Premier that to deport these enemy aliens was impossible at present because of the lack of ocean tonnage, and because they could not be passed to their respective countries until a policy with regard to them is formulated by the Peace Conference. The Government, however, could intern all those whom special tribunals to be appointed decided were undesirable or dangerous, with a view to their subsequent deportation.

Among the Ministers present were Sir Thomas White, Hon. Arthur Meighen, Hon. J. A. Calder, Senator Robertson, Hon. J. D. Reid and Hon. A. K. Maclean.