

# CONSULATE TO REMAIN

## Austro-Hungarian Office Has No Intention To Depart

It was stated at the Austrian consulate-general yesterday afternoon that certain statements made in an afternoon paper regarding their position here were rather misleading, the more so since there was no state of war between Great Britain and Austria-Hungary, and the ambassador of the latter power is still at his post in London.

"The position of the Austro-Hungarian consulate here," it was stated by Prince von Hohenlohe, "is that officially the consulate has ceased to exist. The insignia of the office have been removed and official work has ceased. We are, however, continuing to keep the office open, more in an advisory capacity than as a consulate, and in that way we are able to do a great deal of useful work with our people here. In fact, should it come to a rupture of relations between the two countries the presence of the staff in Canada might later prove very useful, as there is a very large number of Austrian subjects in Canada, including many reservists. There has never been any step taken toward sending these men back to join the Austrian army, although at the various consulates the names of these men have been registered, but that is as far as they have gone. In fact we have expressly warned these reservists to stay at home, to attend to their own affairs, and take no part in any public demonstrations. So far as we know, these orders have been explicitly obeyed."

It was, however, stated that in all probability a large number of these men would find themselves out of employment during the coming winter, with no means of leaving the country, and this might lead to a good deal of difficulty. In such circumstances, it was pointed out that the members of the consulate here would be in position to do much useful work, since the various nationalities represented were a quite different race to the ordinary Canadians, and would need careful handling, which could be supplied by the consular officers, even though no longer officially acting in that capacity.

So far as the consulate itself was concerned, it was stated that there was no intention to leave Canada unless instructions to that effect were given by the Austrian ambassador at Washington.