

# Falls Treason Trial To Be Opened To-day

Immigration Officers Wilcox And Hunt, G. T. Ry Ticket Agent Albertson And Broker Morton Buckley Called To Toronto Today As Witnesses Against Ticket Agent Rowens

## SEQUEL TO SENSATIONAL ARREST OF AUSTRIANS OCTOBER 27 LAST

The conviction of Nefflich on the charge of conspiracy to commit an indictable offence by assisting Arthur Zirnow, former officer in the German army, to leave Canada to join the enemy's forces, interests Niagara Falls readers in a special way, as it is on a par with another "treason-trial" down in the list for commencement at the criminal assizes, Toronto, today. This latter case arises out of the sensational arrest of 17 Austrians in the waiting room of the G.T.R. depot on 27th of October last. Among the witnesses in this case are Niagara Falls immigration Chief Wilcox, G. T. R. ticket agent Albertson, and broker Morton M. Buckley. These gentlemen have been subpoenaed and have gone over to Toronto to attend the court today. Mr. Mortimer, Michigan Central agent, was subpoenaed, but has been notified that he would not be required today.

The story of the arrest of the 17 Austrians first appeared in the Evening Review of Wednesday, Oct. 28th, recording the arrest of the large party of Austrians and their being interned at the armories by the military authorities. The following day, Oct. 29, we had to record the sensational sequel, as follows:

The 17 Austrians arrested at Niagara Falls on Tuesday evening as war prisoners have been taken to Toronto. There some of them may be called as witnesses in an important trial which forms a sequel to the coup made by the immigration officers here. As stated in the Evening Review yesterday, a ticket agent of Toronto was in Niagara Falls, Ontario at the same time as the party of Austrians, but he returned to Toronto by first train. The ticket agent was understood to be one Gilouski or Girofsky. It now transpires that the man who was here and who returned to Toronto, but of whose identity the Toronto police were aware, was a Russian Jew named James J. Rowens of 397 Markham Street, Toronto, an employee of the steamship ticket office of Louis Gorofsky, on Queen street, Toronto.

James J. Rowens was taken into custody by Toronto detectives and handed over to the military authorities, who marched him to Stanley barracks under an armed guard. His arrest was due to the watchfulness of

the immigration officers at Niagara Falls, Ont. He is charged with attempting to assist Austrians to escape from Canada with the alleged intention of going to their native land to assist their country in the present war.

As the police investigate the case more thoroughly others may be involved. The penalty for this offense may be death.

Rowens, the police allege, obtained tickets to the United States for three Austrians, and accompanied them as far as Niagara Falls on Tuesday evening. The men were stopped by immigration officials, and when questioned regarding their nationality stated that they were Roumanian. To further inquiries the members of the party, it is alleged, admitted that they were Austrians and had been told by Rowens to say they were Roumanians.

The immigration officers obtained from the Austrians the name of a man who it was alleged was to have piloted the party from the Falls, and at once notified the Toronto police. Officers were endeavoring to locate Rowens on Tuesday evening, but were unsuccessful. He was arrested yesterday at his place of employment.

On Friday, 30th October, Rowens was brought up at the Toronto police court and remanded to Stanley barracks. On the following Friday he was again taken before Magistrate Fenlon, and committed for trial. The spring assizes, which are now being held, Rowens has been retained in custody ever since.

## ERECTOR'S AGENT CHARGED WITH CARRYING REVOLVER

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y., Feb. 28.—Secretary Brady of the National Erectors' Association has been arrested on a charge of carrying concealed weapons. To Police Justice Piper he gave his name as H. Brady and his residence as the Lafayette Hotel, Buffalo.

Charles Murphy, business agent of the union ironworkers, was the complainant against Brady. Murphy alleges Brady carries a revolver and threatened to use it on the complainant at the plant of the Pittsburgh Company. Brady was released on bail to appear tomorrow morning.