

# TICKET AGENT ON TRIAL FOR TREASON

## Charged With Assisting Aus- trians Out of the Country.

"If there's anyone behind it, it isn't the small man that the Crown desires to prosecute," said Crown Counsel E. E. A. DuVernet, K.C., to-day. "We are not going to allow any putting forward of the small criminal to hide the bigger."

Mr. DuVernet was addressing the jury that is trying J. J. Rowens (Rowinsky), a clerk in L. Gurofsky's steamship office. Rowens is charged with conspiring to secure the passage out of the country of 17 Austrians by telling Immigration Inspector Charles Willocks at Niagara Falls that the men were Roumanians.

Mr. DuVernet told the jury that by thus giving false information as to the nationality of the men, Rowens was sending them home, or, at least, putting them in such a position that they could go home to fight against Russian or perhaps against British troops.

"It was a wholesale order," he said. "There were almost enough men in the party to make up half a company. Some, undoubtedly, would have gone to the front.

"The difficulty in this case is that this accused is not a German, not an Austrian, but apparently owes allegiance to Russia. He is a Russian by birth. What I cannot understand is why a Russian should do anything to harm the allies' cause, especially an educated Russian. For the accused, as I understand, was at one time a member of the bar in Russia."

Referring again to the general lack of appreciation of the necessity of keeping alien enemies from leaving the country, Mr. DuVernet said that a German officer, recently interned, made the remark: "Well, you English have always been fools and always will be."

Charles Willocks, Immigration Inspector in charge at Niagara Falls, stated in the witness box that on October 22 last, Rowens came to him at the Falls and said that he had about 20 Roumanians, whom he wanted passed. Rowens had said he did not want to sell tickets to the men until they had been passed by the immigration officer. "After examining about fifteen, who all claimed to be Roumanians," said Mr. Willocks. "I discovered one who admitted that he was born in Hungary, in Bukowina, and finally the whole party admitted they were Austrians."