

CHIEF OF POLICE INTERNS ALIENS

Also Takes Over Consideration of Two Applications for Exeats

ISSUE BROUGHT TO HEAD

Mr. A. J. Russell Snow, K.C., Will Make No Statement, However

The question "Who is Registrar of Alien Enemies in Toronto?" was brought to a practical issue yesterday.

Mr. A. J. Russell Snow, K.C., contends that while the police are to take over the work of supervising the reporting of aliens already registered, his power to grant exeats and decide internments is un-superseded. The Chief Constable, Col H. J. Grasett, exemplified his claim to the sole powers of the Registrar by interning two Austrians and considering applications for exeats from two others.

Brought Matters to Head.

Complications began in the afternoon when Patrolman Hess came to the registration office on Adelaide street east to ask where he should take two Austrians arrested at the Junction. Mr. Snow was absent at the time. Here he made inquiries as to his duty. He stated that his first instructions had been that he should go to the Adelaide street office, but that later he had received a note at his station that he should take such cases to the City Hall. With him he had two witnesses.

Detective Murray, who had been posted on duty at the Registrar's office, instructed him to take them to the City Hall which Patrolman Hess proceeded to do.

About two-thirty o'clock Chief Grasett himself appeared at Mr. Snow's office, and was told that two alien enemies had just been taken over to his office in the City Hall. He also departed.

Took Applications With Him.

After waiting awhile for Mr. Snow's return, Detective Murray asked Captain Wandless what applications for exeats there were to come before the Registrar. Captain Wandless produced two: from Richard Quass, formerly a Hydro employe, and Charles Falk. These Detective Murray took, and then he also departed, apparently for Chief Grasett's office. Thus the stage was set for Mr. Snow's return.

Chief Grasett, on his return to the City Hall, decided to intern the Austrians, whose names are Nik Nielnik and Fred Hewitzow. Detective Hess was sent to Adelaide street for the necessary papers. The police then took the men to Stanley Barracks.

The applications for exeats were held over until to-day.

Mr. Snow received a letter from Ottawa, but he declined to make any statement as to its contents. He did not attend at the Adelaide street office during the afternoon.