

PEMBROKE CENTRE OF SPY SYSTEM

Mayor Morris Says His Town Is a Pro-German Hot Bed

1,300 TEUTONS ARE THERE

And They Have Been Neglect- ed by Authorities, Mayor Says in Interview at Ottawa

(Special to The Gazette.)

Ottawa, November 30.—A statement by Mayor L. J. Morris, of Pembroke, Ont., that that town is the hub of an organized spy system radiating throughout Canada and connecting with an even greater system in the United States has caused somewhat of a sensation in local circles. Pembroke's propinquity to the Petawawa military camp and the fact that there are over 1,300 Germans in the town, are advanced by Mayor Morris as reasons for his statement.

The Mayor asserts that no efforts have been made by the authorities to round up the ultra German element, the Mayor states, and consequently alien enemies abound unmolested throughout the district. Mayor Morris attributes this apparent negligence to party politics. A Conservative himself, he holds that both parties are equally to blame. Each, he says, is afraid to disturb the German population for fear of harming itself when election time comes along, and, consequently thanks to politics, the Germans are being given a free hand for their machinations.

Mr. Morris believes that everything that happens in the internment camp at Petawawa is conveyed across the border and that details of all Government work being undertaken in Pembroke reaches the enemy through the same channels. He goes so far as to suggest that a complete file of local enlistments is kept by alien enemies for future record, should there ever be a chance to utilize it.

The attitude of the German element was emphasized by the Mayor, "before every patriotic meeting that we have held," he said. "I have written personally to each of the four German pastors in the town inviting them to be present and take part in the proceedings. Not one answered me, and only one of the four ministers ever put in an appearance at the meetings. The majority of this portion of our populace," he continued, "is absolutely out and out pro-German."

He also points out that there are a number of old German soldiers resident in the town which has its own German paper.