

TWO ALIENS WERE INTERNED OTHERS RELEASED.

Investigation by J. F. Fraser, of the Dominion Police, Shows That Conditions Here in Regard to Enemy Activity Are Very Satisfactory.

The cases of the fourteen suspects arrested by the military authorities shortly after the explosion of the 6th inst. have been thoroughly investigated by the representative of Sir Percy Sherwood, Chief Commissioner of Police, and nothing has been discovered that would indicate that any of these aliens were in any way connected with that disastrous occurrence." Such was the statement made by Mr. J. F. Fraser, of the Dominion Police, Ottawa, to a reporter of The Morning Chronicle last evening. Continuing, Mr. Fraser said, "In some cases the evidence distinctly showed that these men had rendered assistance to those who were suffering from the effects of the disaster."

Of the fourteen suspects, two will be sent to the Internment Camp at Amherst, and several others will be held pending deportation. The remainder have been released, having given satisfactory accounts of themselves. Mr. Fraser stated that among those who were held were people whose real nationality was in doubt. One case cited was that of a young man whose peculiar behavior hastened his arrest. A woman was also examined, but it was found that what she had said was more due to nervousness than a statement of an enemy. The woman, in fact, was of British nationality, and was much upset at there being an idea of her being disloyal.

Mr. Fraser was much concerned to learn of the worry which had been caused among some of the people of Halifax by malicious rumor mongers since the explosion. "So far as the aliens are concerned," he said, "any anxiety felt by the people is entirely without ground. The people of Halifax may feel perfectly secure against the machinations of any aliens living in the city."

Mr. Fraser arrived in the city yesterday morning from New Glasgow, where he had been investigating the case of aliens employed at the Car Works before the strike. He stated that the situation there had been serious, but that now all difficulties had been cleared up, the men having resumed work yesterday morning. Mr. Mahar, who turned out to be an American citizen, had gone back to the United States, and one alien had been interned. Others who had left the district since the strike would be apprehended by the police and their cases thoroughly investigated.

In the course of conversation, the reporter was informed by Mr. Fraser

that there was a large number of alien enemies in the Internment Camps in Canada. Asked as to what nation the majority of alien prisoners represented, he said that there were far more Austrians. Everybody was treated the same in these camps. At present in the Internment Camp in Northern Ontario the rich and poor aliens were engaged in the work of clearing off bush land for building sites for the Government. A large proportion of those who were in detention at Amherst had been captured on the high seas. No trouble had been experienced in handling any of the aliens captured in this country.

Acting Chief of Police Hanrahan came in for his quota of praise from Mr. Fraser, who stated that his work in connection with the department had proven most efficient. Great care had been always taken to keep Ottawa informed as to the situation in Halifax, reports being received regularly.

The Alien Enemy Registration Branch has been in existence since the outbreak of war. If any person is suspected of treachery, the Chief of Police has authority to have him apprehended; then the matter is investigated by the representative of Sir Percy Sherwood, when the suspects are either interned or paroled.

"Full precautions have been taken to handle the situation in Halifax," said Mr. Fraser. "The people can rest assured that there is not the slightest fear of treachery. Any rumors which have been spread abroad are entirely without foundation."