

The work of Mr. John R. Rathom of The Providence Journal, and the perennial official revelations of the treachery and unscrupulous character of German "diplomacy" on this continent, should determine all patriotic citizens to be on guard against the enemy within the gates.

THE ENEMY WITHIN THE GATES.

Conviction in the United States Federal Court at Detroit of Albert Kaltschmidt, Fritz Neef and Carl Schmidt, with the wives of Neef and Schmidt, the former a sister of Kaltschmidt, on charges of plotting bomb and dynamite outrages on both sides of the border, and their imprisonment for substantial terms, breaks up a nest of Teuton treachery and intrigue which for three years past has been a serious menace to the Dominion at all border points. Sir Percy Sherwood, head of the Dominion Police, and Superintendent J. E. Rogers, of the Ontario Provincial Police, have been camping on the trail of the organization for months, but, so long as the United States remained a neutral, they were unable to secure the extradition of these German-Americans who operated stealthily behind the protection of their United States naturalization.

Kaltschmidt and his clever and accomplished sister, Mrs. Ida Neef, were the brains of the organization. They claimed to be of Prussian aristocracy, well-educated, polished, and daring. While von Bernstorff was German Ambassador in the United States their relationship to the Embassy was very close, young von Papen being the "messenger" through whom they communicated after the expulsion of Dernberg. The Schmidts and the Respas were their tools.

Dernberg and Kaltschmidt were alleged to be jointly responsible for the adaptation of the organization known as the Deutscher Bund—a nation-wide "society" composed of Germans and United States citizens of German birth—to war purposes. Following the Teuton agitation in San Francisco, and the departure of Dernberg, the Deutscher Bund held its initial secret conference at the Statler Hotel, Detroit, on the night of July 3, 1915. Its publicly declared purpose was to "organize as a political power in the United States to force the hand of the Federal Government, and establish an export embargo on all munitions of war." Delegates from almost every State in the Union were present.

The conference was held behind closely tyed doors. A staff correspondent of The Globe, who had been despatched to Detroit to investigate the facts for this paper, was present for a portion of the deliberations until his identity was disclosed, when he was peremptorily and angrily ejected. Some of the delegates spoke in German. Kaltschmidt, who was greeted with acclaim as the leader, spoke in English. There was talk of an "invasion" of Canada. Kaltschmidt scouted the idea, but he maintained that the destruction of manufacturing plants located in an "enemy country" and engaged in turning out military munitions the tying up of troop trains and other transportation by "wiping out" bridges, and attacks on militia buildings and stations were justified as "legitimate war." These sentiments were generally approved by the conference—and the facts were immediately communicated by The Globe to the Dominion and Provincial police authorities.

There is no doubt considerable hysteria concerning the machinations of enemy spies and plotters, much irresponsible talk about the placing of German gold, and a great deal of uninformed and unnecessarily alarmist agitation as to Teuton espionage and intrigue. But vigilance is the price of safety