

TORONTO WIRELESS

SEIZED BY POLICE

A German Was Discovered to Be Operating a Private Plant in the City.

CHIEF SEES MAYOR

Many Local Plants Pick Up Messages From as Far East as Atlantic.

The Toronto police are taking possession of all the wireless plants in this city.

Information reached the police today that there was a German resident in the north-west section of the city who is operating a private plant on the roof of his house. He is thought to have been picking up messages from the Atlantic coast and nobody knows what use he may have been making of them.

Chief of Police Grasétt interviewed Mayor Hocken on the matter as soon as the Mayor returned to his office this morning, and the Mayor gave him full authority to go ahead, seize the wireless plants, and dismantle them for the present. Both the Mayor and the Chief were loath to talk about their action.

"We simply mean to prevent them doing any work while the war is on," said the Mayor. "We don't want foes of the Empire to be doing anything in our own city."

Police Will Hunt For Wireless.

The Chief of Police told The Star that he knew that messages were picked up by the local wireless men from as far east as the Atlantic coast. "We don't know what damage might be done in this way," he said. "We propose to dismantle the wireless plants, and we think that anybody who has no ulterior motive will do so before we have to ask them."

The name and address of the German wireless operator could not be learned. The authorities are making it their secret.

It is said that it was the local militia authorities who first tipped off the police as to the wireless plants being used.

The police could not say how many plants there are in the city. There are many amateurs who have installed plants on their housetops and easily pick up messages from the Atlantic coast. Each police inspector will now send his men out on the hunt for wireless apparatus, and the list will be turned in to the Chief after they have been put out of commission.