

CLAIM GERMANS HAVE A COMPLETE SPY SYSTEM NOT FAR FROM OTTAWA

Pembroke is Believed to be Centre Through Which News of Canadian Military Affairs Reaches the Enemy.

FILE OF ENLISTMENTS KEPT BY ALIEN ENEMIES ?

Prominent Citizen of Pembroke Declares Much of the Teuton Populace is Out and Out Pro-German.

Special to The Journal.

Pembroke, Nov. 30.—That this city is the hub of an organized German spy system radiating throughout Canada and connecting with an even greater system across the border is the opinion of Mayor J. L. Morris. Its propinquity to the Petawawa camp and the large proportion of citizens of Teuton nationality are the two chief reasons for his conviction. He states that one resident out of every five in the town is either German born or of German extraction, while in the surrounding townships of Petawawa, Alice, Fraser, Wilberforce, North and South Algoma and Haggarty every other inhabitant is of Teutonic stock.

Not a single effort has 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.

Believes Spy System.

"There is no question whatever in my mind," stated Mayor Morris, "that in this country, as in the United States, the Germans have a most complete spy system. I wouldn't wonder if in Canada alone there were at least one thousand paid spies." According to the mayor's figures there are over thirteen hundred Germans in the town of Pembroke. 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 predict 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," said he to The Journal, "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 A 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. Why, there is one man I speak to almost every day—a German who has been here for 35 years—who invariably refers to his Fatherland every time he speaks to me."

Fears the Strangers.

Mayor Morris is not afraid of the old German residents in the town, for he says they are all fairly known to the local authorities. But he does fear the strangers—who have drifted in during the past year. Since the war began, he said, numbers of Germans have come into Pembroke, and he expressed the belief that considerable danger lay in the continued presence of these men.

"I do not want to create the impression that all our Germans are bad citizens," the mayor concluded. "The Canadian-born are all right and good men, but on the other hand it takes two generations for the Teuton element to assimilate into the Canadian and get the ideas and ideals of the Fatherland out of their heads. One possibility of danger which must not be overlooked is the number of old German soldiers now living in Pembroke."