

Fort Erie Alarmed Fear Foreign Raid

To Appeal For Military Guard

At a meeting of the Fort Erie Board of Trade last evening, as reported in the Buffalo Express, the question of home defence was considered, and it is probable that a home guard will be organized. Reeve Douglas said that in his opinion the Government had been very slack in not stationing troops for the protection of life and property at this point.

Niagara Falls, Ont., has guards at the power-house, which is a measure of protection to the whole city, besides a fairly large city police. But this district is absolutely defenceless, the nearest militia being stationed along the Welland canal, eighteen miles from Bridgeburg and Fort Erie.

It was suggested that the Government be asked to station a militia com-

pany here, and it was thought that it would be an excellent plan to have a machine gun and searchlight mounted on the electric transmission towers along the river front.

The matter was taken up by the Board of Trade as the result of discussions of residents of Fort Erie and Bridgeburg on the subject. Many have pointed out the possibility of an invasion of Canada by German and Austrian sympathizers in the United States which would find the two villages unprotected.

Major R. W. Leonard, of Saint Catharines, acting for the Militia Department, came to Fort Erie to investigate the situation and to determine whether or not there was need of troops along the border opposite Buffalo.