

TO WATCH POSSIBLE SOURCE OF TROUBLE

Police Head Anxious to Stop Inflammatory Books and Papers Circulating

CONSULTS CITY ATTORNEY

Copies of German-American Newspapers With Transla- tions Submitted to Law Department

Books, newspapers, posters, banners or anything of the kind that may tend to arouse one class against another will not be tolerated in Montreal during the present crisis, if the police can prevent it. Chief Campeau will endeavor to prevent the circulation in the city, if it is possible for him to do so, of foreign newspapers that may tend to inflame public opinion and cause trouble. There are a number of German papers published in the United States that find their way here through the mails and by express. Since the war broke out, many of them contain articles which might incite German citizens against Great Britain. While such articles are written for the benefit of German-Americans, they might have a bad influence on many German-Canadians who read them.

The question of stopping the sale of such papers and of preventing them coming into the country, has been referred by Chief Campeau to the Federal authorities. For those newspapers that come through the mail, it will be an easy matter for the Postmaster-General to put a stop to them, but the largest number of such papers are brought into the country by the express companies for the newspapers. Chief Campeau has submitted copies of one of the German-American papers, published in New York, to Chief City Attorney Laurendeau, with translations of a few of the articles against Great Britain and her allies, contained in the paper, to ascertain if the police have the right to prohibit the sale and circulation of the paper in Montreal. It is not likely, however, that any action will be taken until the Federal authorities have been heard from in the matter.

ANXIOUS TO PRESERVE PEACE.

Chief Campeau is anxious that nothing should be done to cause a disturbance of the public peace. During a crisis like the present, he recognizes that it is easy for people to lose their heads and be carried away, as passions are easily inflamed. He thinks that nothing should be done by one class of citizens to offend another at the present time. There are many Germans and Austrians in Montreal, Chief Campeau states, who have resided here for years and these should be treated with every consideration, so long as they keep the peace. The police will do everything in their power to protect them, but he trusts to the good sense and fair play of the citizens that it will not be necessary for them to be called on to do so.

Only a few nights ago, during a parade of a body of reservists on the Champ de Mars, one of the banners that was being carried bore the words "A bas les Allemands." Chief Campeau suggested to those who were in charge of the parade that it would be much better if the banner was destroyed, which suggestion was adopted. There were other banners with the mottoes "God Save the King," and "Vive la France," so that the head of the police force could not see what good was to be accomplished by carrying one that might hurt the feelings of one class of citizens and might tend to inflame some irresponsible hot heads into committing an attack on them.

All foreigners, even those belonging to countries with which Great Britain is at war, will be fully protected in Montreal, so long as they keep the peace, but publications that tend to inflame them and which might cause them to commit some outrage, as well

an publications that might, without cause, insult them, will be suppressed, if the police can have any say in the matter, was the statement made by Chief Campau last night.