

ALIEN ENEMIES

MOSTLY ENROLLED

With Total Over 7,500 Nearly
All Local Colony Is Ac-
counted for

TRY TO TRICK REGISTRAR

Some Giving False Addresses
and Others Claiming to Have
Lost Cards—Receive
Effective Lessons

With somewhat more than seven thousand five hundred Austrian and German names on the roll of the registration bureau for alien enemies, the work of Registrar Silas H. Carpenter and his staff has considerably fallen off during the last few days, and the newly equipped office at 153 St. Antoine street no longer presents such a busy scene as visitors had been accustomed to witness during the last couple of months, though the stream of aliens continues to flow from all parts of the city to the bureau, south of Windsor Station. There are a few stragglers who have not reported yet, and there are those regular visitors who are required to present their cards every week or every month, according to their age or status.

A long dark stain some two feet in width on the partition which divides the outer office from the registrar's private room testifies to the fact that the partition, which is painted pale blue, had been rubbed by many laborers' coats, though until recently this stain was invisible at all times of the day, for half a dozen Austrians were always on hand standing in a close line against the partition, awaiting their turn to be interviewed. Now, however, the rush is past, and Mr. Carpenter attributes the fact either to nearly all the alien enemies of Montreal having already been registered or to the holiday season, of which defaulters would take advantage to the fullest extent.

Not only, however, are the men coming to register in smaller numbers, but Mr. Carpenter has found within the last few days that it has not been necessary to intern such a large proportion of those who do report. While about a hundred internees were taken to the Petewawa concentration camp on Tuesday night, making some four hundred in all from Montreal, the registrar says it is not likely that another batch will have to be drafted from the local internment quarters, which accommodate about 125 men, for some time. The giving of wrong addresses, a ruse tried by some of the men, apparently to escape surveillance, led to the internment of half a dozen about a fortnight ago, but the lesson seemed to be effective, and few have tried this trick since the internment of their fellow-countrymen. The Austrians are clannish, Mr. Carpenter says, and news spreads quickly among them.

CLAIM CARDS ARE LOST.

Another trick that had to be dealt with by the registrar was the facility with which the aliens seemed to lose the cards, with one of which each man is provided, and which must be presented every time he reports. It looked as if there was some exchange system whereby more than one man might use the same card, but this "losing" of cards was effectively put an end to when orders were given to those who came without their cards that they must henceforth report every day instead of every week, or weekly instead of monthly.

A curious case arose in this connection. An Austrian, already registered, came to report on the day specified, but he was without his card. When asked how he had lost it, he said he had left it in his coat pocket, and on getting up one morning he found his coat had disappeared. He believed it had been taken by one of his fellow boarders. It was learned that the fellow boarder had been interned on the day of the coat's disappearance, and a search of the man interned led to the discovery of the missing card, and helped in the identification of the missing coat. The rightful owner of the coat was asked if he would take action against the man for theft, but did not want to do so, as he appeared quite satisfied to have his coat and card back.

Mr. Carpenter said that these Austrians always seemed ready to stand by one another in different circumstances, remarking that aliens frequently admitted they had no money or employment, yet protested against internment, saying there was a man from their own village who had work and provided for others. The registrar also commented on the singular unwillingness of the Austrians to admit that they had money. One man had submitted to internment recently, having declared that he had no money in answer to a question. Friends of his came and asked why he was locked up, saying he had money, and a search of the man disclosed a tidy roll of bills, amounting to \$400, sewn inside the man's shirt.