

ALIENS CLAIMED ALLEGIANCE HERE

Austrians Contended To Reg- istrars That They Were Loyal To Canada

ST. DENIS REGISTRATION

Total of 39,500 Persons in Division Secured Certifi- cates, Practically All Reg- istrants Over 16 Years

Results of registration for the St. Denis division were announced yesterday by Mr. C. A. Pariseault, K. C., registrar, the total number registered being 39,500, which number Mr. Pariseault calculated to represent nearly 100 per cent. of that section of the population over 16 years of age. As St. Denis is one of the widest areas which had to be covered, stretching as far as Back River, this result was considered satisfactory. Referring to the registration of aliens, Mr. Pariseault said quite a number of Austrians presented themselves, but although they declared Austria to be their native land, nearly all of them in response to the question as to what land they owed their allegiance answered at once "Canada." He was inclined to think that some notices should have been posted up and published in languages other than English and French, as many of the foreigners in the city were unable to read the newspapers in either of these languages.

Post office registration is proceeding slowly. At the general post office, the total for Tuesday was only 77, and at "C" office, St. Catherine and Plessis streets, there were only 21 registrations on the same day. Mr. L. J. Gaboury, inspector at the head office, stated that the instructions issued to all offices were to abstain from soliciting or urging people to register. It was the registrant who should apply and not the duty of any post office employee to suggest it.

The extension of thirty days was, in reality, provided for in the registration act, and was not an after-

thought; and for this reason the post office is asking each registrant why the registration was not effected on or before Saturday last. The announcement that there is an extension of time, however, has caused an easing off at hotels and restaurants, proprietors of which are taking the view that it is useless for them to trouble or refuse their customers as long as they can still legally comply with the law. In the case of the leading hotels, the managers are themselves deputy registrants, so that if a new arrival acknowledges that he or she is unregistered, the omission is at once remedied.

The various thefts of registration certificates which have been reported to Chief Registrar Cresse seem to be the work of a practical joker. Several girls engaged in factories have been victims, and as their handbags from which the certificates have been taken, were otherwise intact, no money having disappeared, there is reason to assume that the certificate snatcher is someone who is opposed to the Government or merely some thoughtless person who wishes to frighten the girls.