

# ON LOOKOUT FOR SPIES

## If Any Caught, Might Mean Courtmartial and Execution

In a quiet way steps have been taken to prevent any espionage or spying by German spies on Canadian preparations for defence or offence. It is stated that there are a number of German spies in the country, and the Dominion police and other police forces have been instructed to be on the lookout for them, although it is not likely they could do much harm, since all mail and cable communication has been cut off between Canada and the hostile nations.

That espionage has been practiced is shown by the fact that not three weeks before the outbreak of hostilities German agents were in Montreal trying to get information regarding the dangerous spots in the channel below Quebec, with charts, and were also trying to secure information regarding the practicability of establishing an artificial port at the foot of Orleans Island. A port at the latter spot would be useful to any hostile force, since it would be naturally protected from the guns of the forts and could only be attacked from the Beauport cliffs, if sufficient water could be found to make a harbor. The German agents did not get much information, as their nationality and purposes were quickly divined, and they were referred to the Marine Department at Ottawa. At last reports they had not applied to Hon. Mr. Hazen or any of his assistants for such information.

Should any such spies be captured it might prove very uncomfortable for them, as in war time a spy is liable to trial by court martial, and if convicted the military law prescribes that he face a platoon of soldiers with loaded rifles and a convenient grave nearby. With probably 200,000 reservists from hostile armies in Canada these precautions are by no means idle.