

TO TEST VALIDITY OF INTERNMENT OF ALIEN MINERS AT FERNIE

Austrians Take Proceedings to Nullify Action of the
B. C. Authorities in Placing Them in Deten-
tion Camp--Interest in Case is Intense

Fernie, B. C., June 17. — (Special to the Herald).—The internment proceedings carried out here by the provincial police resulting in the internment of 321 aliens, mostly Austro-Hungarian subjects, will be taken to the courts on a writ of habeas corpus proceedings under the act have been started here by Mr. T. T. McRedy, an attorney from Cranbrook. Two test cases are being submitted to test the validity of the internment by the provincial authorities. Martin Borrosky, an Austrian subject, born in 1891, came to Canada with his parents when seven years old, and has attended the Fernie schools for five years. He speaks English fluently, and has been in Canada ever since his arrival in 1891, excepting four years spent at work in the United States. When he saw the notices on the bill boards directing all foreigners to report, he did so and swears he has strictly conformed to all the requirements under the proclamation of August 15, 1914.

Austrian Well Off

Steven Janostin, the other applicant, also Austrian, came to Canada

in 1908, and has worked at Coal Creek ever since. He is thirty-one years old and has worked in the lamp house at Coal Creek for a long time. These applications will be made before Mr. Justice W. A. MacDonald in Vancouver on Monday next at eleven o'clock. Borrosky has money and an uncle living on a ranch in Alberta, is well off, and wants his nephew to make his home with him until the war is over.

Colonel McKay, D.O.C. for this district, was instructed by the Dominion authorities to take up with the provincial officials, the question of releasing the interned men who have not contravened the provisions of the proclamation of August 15, last, and the provincial constable, Colin S. Campbell, has instructions to hold all men until further instructions.

The interned men are all very quiet and orderly, are receiving good care and attention, but there is considerable speculation as to the result of the application for freedom under habeas corpus proceedings.

The whole situation is a peculiar one and all along the Pass the developments are watched with interest.