

# CITY HALL EMPLOYEES MAY FIGHT

**Mayor Issues Proclamation  
to Heads of Departments  
—All Can Return.**

**GREAT RESPONSE  
TO FRENCH APPEAL**

**Consulates Crowded With  
Men Eager to Serve  
Their Country.**

The war spirit has seized the City Hall. This was demonstrated by a large number of civic employes waiting on the Mayor today and asking to be permitted to leave their work and enlist in the French and English armies.

In consequence of the situation the Mayor decided to issue the following proclamation to the heads of all civic departments:—

"The heads of the different civic departments are requested to inform those of their employes, who, being of foreign nationality, are recalled to their country to take part in the war, that they may, without fear, answer their country's call; that they will be replaced only temporarily, and that, on their return, they will be reinstated in their respective positions.

"The heads of departments will inform His Worship the Mayor of the positions which may become vacant through the departure of the above-mentioned employes."

## **FRENCH RESERVISTS.**

Among the City Hall employes are a number of French reservists, chiefly affected by the order—and they are making preparations to sail for France, with the least delay.

The instructions received by the French consul, call out every man under 48 years of age; and at the consulate the response is declared to have been magnificent. This morning, there was a great crowd of Frenchmen in Place Viger Square.

It is expected that about a thousand young men will sail by the Allan liner *Victorian*, tomorrow. These are paying their own way home. Others, without means, will be sent home at the expense of the French government as fast as steamers can be secured. It is regarded as probable that cruisers will be sent over to convey the vessels across and prevent any likelihood of their capture by German war vessels.

A notice posted on the doors of the French consulate declares "that all Frenchmen must return to France at once by the nearest route without awaiting individual orders. Those without the means of transportation will receive a ticket to Montreal from their nearest railway station. Upon presenting their credentials to the consul-general with a properly certified statement showing that they lack the means of joining their corps, they will receive instructions from him."

## **AUSTRIANS READY.**

At the Austrian consulate, there are the same crowds. The offices in the *Cristine Building* are packed with men speaking half the languages in Europe. The names and address of every subject of the Austrian Empire is taken. So far, it is stated at the consulate, none of the men have been ordered home.

The Russian and German consulates are quiet in comparison. The Russian consulate lies just across St. Nicholas street from the Austrian, and, to prevent street fighting, policemen have been detailed to keep guard. Officials of the German consulate decline to give any information.

Thirty men registered at the Swiss consulate today in response to the call of the Swiss government. The order reads:—"All Swiss citizens liable to military service and residing in Canada are commanded to sail immediately to join their colors and to report without delay to the military unit in which they are incorporated, or the staff to which they belong."

The statement was made at the Belgian consulate that no mobilization orders had yet been received.