

ENEMIES IN CANADA

Canadians of German origin and many naturalized Germans have held their own ever since the war began in the display of practical loyalty towards the British cause. The action of the inhabitants of Berlin and Waterloo in subscribing \$100,000 to the National Patriotic Fund may be accepted as a particular proof of a general attitude. For such residents of Canada there should be peculiar consideration.

Yet it must not be forgotten that the Dominion still harbors numbers of unnaturalized Germans and American Germans of an extreme type, who entertain only hostile feelings towards Canada as part of the British Empire. Many travel about the country, walk the streets, and frequent hotels and places of business, free to plot and work against the welfare of the State. Without question Canada is overrun by German spies, who find means of constantly conveying important information to the Kaiser's Government.

Their dearest wish and their specific mission here is to weaken the cause of the allies, and recent revelations show the lengths to which they will go on behalf of the Fatherland. In times of peace, while the Kaiser was protesting his friendship for his neighbors, his spies infested every grade of society in Belgium, France and Great Britain, and kept the Berlin army staff posted as to the weak points in the defences of all three countries. It is said that a noble German family which occupied a fine country house near London for several years past, suddenly disappeared shortly before the war, and that on being searched, their home was found to contain an extensive store of bombs.

A recent despatch told of a German "factory" so situated and built as to be capable of being used as a fortress dominating Edinburgh. We are informed that months before the war the Germans laid heavy concrete foundations for their siege guns at strategic points in Belgium and France—always under the guise of industrial or sporting projects. The devilish resourcefulness of the enemy disclosed in these and a hundred other ways warrants the Canadian Government in being on its guard. Like the people of the Mother Country, we have been loath to believe as evil of the enemy as their machinations have warranted. We have to recall the fact that every German and every Austrian from the European continent is a trained soldier bound to serve the enemy whenever opportunity offers in any part of the world.

It is a fact that agencies are at work circulating false literature intended to undermine the loyalty of Canadians to their own cause and to justify the hellish assault of Prussianized Germany on the peace and liberties of Europe. The so-called German-Canadian Alliance of Saskatchewan some time ago petitioned the Borden Government to restrain the Canadian press from injuring the feelings of German immigrants. The members of this society apparently expected all the newspapers to repress the Kaiser's mad speeches, and to exclude accounts of German atrocities against the helpless Belgians. These are only the more open evidences of German activity throughout the Dominion.

There is even greater need to protect the country against the underground workings of the Prussian agents and spies. On the outbreak of war the Government ordered alien enemies to surrender their firearms and register with the nearest magistrate. This regulation was enforced in some sections of the country, but neglected in others. The enforcement is now being made general. Upwards of 600 Germans and Austrians are confined in military prisons in the several Provinces and 3,000 more are on parole. No matter what the social qualities of these outsiders may be, they must not be permitted to menace the security of the State. Canada is in a condition of war. The safety of our lives and property and the integrity of the Empire are at stake.

No careless tolerance or easy leniency must be allowed to endanger all that we hold most dear.