

CANADA NOT WORRYING ABOUT THE MONROE DOCTRINE OR POSSIBILITY OF INVASION BY GERMAN SOLDIERS

Statement by Count Von Bernstorff That by Sending Her Troops to Europe Canada Has Put Herself Outside Protection of Monroe Doctrine, Causes No Concern at Ottawa—Invasion is Impossible.

Ottawa, Oct. 28. — Canada is not worrying about the Monroe Doctrine or the possibility of a German invasion. The statement by Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador, that by sending troops to Europe Canada has put herself outside the protection of the Monroe doctrine causes no concern here. The belief is that before Germany could inaugurate an invasion of Canada several unlikely things would be likely to occur. The first would be the defeat by Germany of the French and allied armies in order to set free a force capable of securing a footing on Canadian territory. There is no indication as yet that Germany will do this and the Canadian force which is being sent to the front is designed to do its share to make this impossible.

If Germany had the men to spare, it is pointed out here, there is still the problem of getting them conveyed across the ocean. A present so thoroughly is the blue water closed to Germany that a half million German and Austrian reservists, assembled in the United States cannot be carried to Europe to join the German and Austrian armies, which are hardly in need of them. It is certain that before Germany starts to move men westward a way must be shown to move men east.

The scattered German cruisers which are now being hunted on the Atlantic and the Pacific, could not give Germany's transports protection for they have their hands full and their heels busy looking after their own safety.

The acting premier, Sir George Foster, and the opposition leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, hold that it is not the German ambassador but the American president who must decide as to the application of the Monroe doctrine and the attitude of the United States toward German invasion of Canada should that country ever find itself in a position to despatch troops across the Atlantic.

The Monroe doctrine is an American policy and not British. It is known that the view of American statesmen is that whatever excuse might be given, Germany would not undertake to send troops to Canada unless the invasion was designed for permanent occupation. After the violation of the neutrality of Belgium, Germany's promises are regarded in the United States as "scraps of paper" and an attempt to land German troops in either North or South America would result in the Atlantic fleet being used for the purpose for which it was constructed.