

MAY NOT ALLOW ALIEN ENEMIES TO TAKE HOMESTEADS

Government Has A Difficult Question to Settle In Western Canada

(Special to The Edmonton Journal—Ford's Ottawa Service).

OTTAWA, Aug. 26.—The government has under consideration at the present time the question of continuing to allow people of German, Austrian or Turkish origin to take out Canadian homesteads.

When war broke out a proclamation was issued to the effect that all alien enemies who obeyed the law would not be interfered with in pursuit of their business. In pursuance of this proclamation the interior department made no change in the homestead regulations, with the result that every month since hostilities opened there has been a sprinkling of Germans and Austrians who have entered for homesteads. Under the regulations they must be either British citizens or else make a declaration of their intention to take out papers.

No patents, of course, are granted until naturalization papers are taken out. In view of the increasing difficulty in certain parts of the west in dealing with alien enemies the question of continuing this lenient policy has arisen and is now under consideration. Objection is taken to allowing alien enemies to secure homesteads. On the other hand it is pointed out that if they have so little regard for their fatherland that they are willing to make homes here and are willing to become British subjects, they should be encouraged.—FORD.