

Allow Alien Enemies To Go on Homesteads

Lenient Policy With Well-behaved Teutons and Turks in the West

From a Staff Reporter.

Ottawa, Aug. 26.—The Government has under consideration at the present time the question of continuing to allow people of German, Austrian and 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 the 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.

Homestead entries during June numbered 1,865, or 1,156 less than June, 1914. There were 425 in Manitoba, 756 in Saskatchewan, 630 in Alberta, 45 in British Columbia. The homesteaders included 256 Americans, 211 Austro-Hungarians, 16 Germans, 1 Turk, 10 Belgians, 16 Italians and 1 Serbian.