

GERMANS HAVE ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS IN OTTAWA, SAYS THIS PAPER

Toronto Daily Star Prints Sensational Story Showing That Germans in Capital Hold Positions of Confidential Character.

SECRETARY TO MINISTER OF NAVAL AFFAIRS, AND DR. HAANEL ARE INSTANCED AS CASES IN POINT

Special Despatch to The Evening Journal.

Toronto, Feb. 9.—The Toronto Star today carries the following under an Ottawa date line:

Ottawa, Feb. 9. — How many men of British birth are holding positions of trust within the bounds of the German Empire? Echo answers with conviction, "none."

How many men of German birth are today holding positions of trust within the bounds of the Dominion of Canada? Echo answers, with a complete knowledge of the facts, "many."

It might further be asked how many of the sons of British parents are holding such positions in Germany, and the answer would be "very few." Such a question asked concerning the number of men of German parentage holding prominent positions in Canada would simply be smiled at as not mattering very much.

Germans Holding Positions of Trust.

The truth remains that numerous persons not only of German parentage, but of German birth, whose relatives are fighting Great Britain on the continent are in possession of positions of trust in Canada, yes even in the very heart of Canada—the Capital. In fact it is stated that some of them have not yet received full naturalization, and many of them only received it after the war commenced.

According to the first order-in-council passed covering the question of alien enemies in Canada if a man of enemy nationality went about his business quietly, and decently he was not to be interfered with. Only those who by word or act showed their hostility to the country of their birth, and to the British cause were interned, and deprived of their positions. It may be that the man who keeps his own counsels, and is careful of his acts is at the present time a more dangerous enemy than the openly, and foolishly hostile individual. But psychology didn't enter into the making of the regulations as they stand at present. In any case the men who kept their counsel, and were careful of their acts are at large in the Dominion, and are, all things else being equal, still in possession of their positions.

What Would Germany Herself Do ?

Many of them undoubtedly are faithful servants. Many of them probably are trustworthy. But Germany does not go upon probabilities and it is doubtful whether Canada, even with her wider outlook, should trust too much to them. In any case it would seem that it would not be tempting providence too much if such men as were holding positions of trust before the war, and are not to be persecuted after the war commenced, should be given some other position where there would be less scope for their energies should the trust, which the Dominion continues to place in them be misplaced.

German Having Access to Confidential Papers of Naval Service, Says the Star

Probably the most conspicuous case on record is that of Gustav Heidemann, secretary of the minister of marine, and naval service, Hon. J. D. Hazen. Mr. Heidemann was born in Germany, and no doubt has relatives fighting there. He has been a long time in Canada, and is reputed as an able and efficient secretary. His name appears on the most recent list issued from the secretary of state's department as having received full naturalization. But Mr. Heidemann has access to all correspondence connected with Canadian coast defence, wireless, harbor patrols, and marine matters which come to the office of the minister of marine and naval defence. It is not conceivable that Admiral Von Tirpitz would be so trustful, in connection with the administration of his department.

General Sir Sam Hughes has boasted through the press that his chief intelligence officer overseas is a German by the name of Capt. Hahn. The duties of an intelligence officer are about what the name would imply, and it is "intelligence" concerning the disposition of the Canadian troops which the German headquarters staff very much desire.

In fact it would save a lot of aeroplane reconnaissance work in order to be able to get that material from somebody in the Canadian lines. General Hughes states in defence of his officer that he is now in the front line trenches, and that in addition 36 Germans have already died fighting for the Allied cause. No one doubts that these men may have been conscientiously fighting for the liberty of the world. Still there must always remain the fact that bravery does not always prove that a man is not a spy.

In the Post Office.

It is related that very recently an altercation occurred in the postal note branch of the Post Office department between a man who had a son wounded at the front the other day, and another employe whose name is Hermann Dohmann and who is reputed of German birth and origin. The irate father whose resentment at the wounding of his son was not modified by the burning down of the parliament buildings, vented his wrath upon his German fellow-employe and is said to have threatened dire reprisals upon his head if the

Langevin Block should happen to burn. Mr. Dohmann retorted coolly by stating that he would discuss the war with anyone after it was over.

A position of considerable emolument and influence in the civil service of Canada is that of mechanical superintendent of Dominion dredging. It carries with it a cabinet minister's salary at least, together with adequate expenses for travelling, for there is much travelling connected with it. In fact it is the duty of the superintendent in question to travel wherever there is dredging done in the Dominion, and therefore to visit all the important harbor works which are under the jurisdiction of the department of public works.

This position strangely enough is now held by A. Kastella, who is not only of German birth and origin but has only been in the Dominion but a short period of time, and has the strongest possible Fatherland accent. Mr. Kastella's father, and brothers are fighting for the great cause, but it is for the great cause as Germany sees it that they are fighting. And Mr. Kastella was naturalized in September after the war broke out, and only after continued pressure had been brought to bear upon him by the Dominion Police Department.

Case of Dr. Haanel.

The head of the Mines Branch of the Geological surveys is Dr. E. Haanel, a German by birth. He is reputed one of the ablest of Canada's public servants. And he is in charge of all matters pertaining to mining matters in Canada. His duties take him to different places where mines are located.

Dr. H. T. Gussow, born in Germany of German parents, is the chief Dominion botanist. Only last summer Dr. Gussow was on Prince Edward Island during the time when there were rumors of German submarines in the Gulf. He also conducted negotiations with the United States in connection with the potato embargo, which duties took him to the United States. He is reputed to be a free-spoken sort of a man, and it is stated that he has been sending money to friends in Germany for many months. But he is still chief dominion botanist at a big salary.

The above are instances of the infinite trust of the Dominion. It is not necessary to name German-Canadians who are in the service, for Canada does not recognize the existence of the "hyphen." No doubt those who have for a generation enjoyed the liberties obtained under the Canadian constitution are satisfied to remain Canadians. But it is hard to see how any man can renounce his Fatherland by the simple means of living for a few years in another country.

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