

BERNSTORFF SHIP IS KEPT IN SECLUSION

Brought In In Darkness, Anchored Where Passengers See Nothing.

NO BOATS NEAR IT

Searchlight Plays All Night—Extreme Secrecy Is Observed.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Halifax, N.S., Feb. 17.—The task of examining the credentials of the various members of the German party on board the Scandinavian-American liner Frederick VIII., en route from New York to Copenhagen, was begun this morning by a corps of Canadian immigration and Customs officers. The ship was last night taken to a secluded portion of Halifax harbor for this purpose. A small army of officials were taken out to the steamer this morning, and it will depend on whether they find everything satisfactory with the German party, which includes Count Von Bernstorff, the former German Ambassador to the United States, and other high consular officials leaving for the Fatherland, whether the ship is long detained in Halifax.

Extreme Secrecy.

The most careful secrecy prevails about the operations of the officials, but the make-up of the examining force—it is composed of immigration officials, translators, and women examiners—indicated that the work was to be careful and thorough.

Rumors that it was possible Hans Tauscher and Wolf Von Igel, who figured in the revelations connected with attempts to destroy the Welland Canal, and reported on the vessel, might be removed by the British naval authorities, were without confirmation this morning. One of the immigration officers said that no orders had been issued for the removal of anybody from the ship at present. Action would only be taken after the party's credentials had been examined.

Searchlight All Night.

Last night the Frederick VIII. was under the glare of a searchlight from a patrol boat all night, while this morning the rule about allowing boats to approach close to the liner were carefully enforced.

Members of the German party were early on deck this morning, though their view from the ship is not inspiring, consisting of a jail on one hand and a brewery on the other.

The passengers on the ship will under no circumstances be allowed to land. They were reported well, though Countess Bernstorff is reported suffering slightly from the nervous attack due to circumstances under which she has been called upon to leave her native land.