

MAN CHARGED WITH SEDITIONS UTTERANCES

PAUL KRUGER COMMITTED TO
GAOL BY P. M.

On a charge of giving expression to seditious utterances Paul Kruger, a Pembroke citizen who was in the employ of Mr T. A. Sammon on his farm some distance from town, was on Tuesday committed to the county gaol to stand his trial at the next court of competent jurisdiction, which will be the fall assizes, to be held in Pembroke on December 4th next. Kruger, who is said to have on previous occasions given expression to disloyal sentiments, on May 12th was eating dinner at Mr Sammon's farm in company with that gentleman and Messrs M. Kutschaw, Kenneth Mulligan and James O'Brien and it is alleged in the charge that in a discussion which arose over the publication in The Observer of the pictures of the Pembroke young men who have fallen in action Kruger said, with particular reference to the late Lieut. W. G. Williams and the late Sergt. M. Labow, "I am glad they were killed; it was good enough for them. I hope they will all be killed." County Crown Attorney Burritt was informed of the matter and at once instructed Chief Carroll to take action. The Chief did so, placing Kruger under arrest, and on Tuesday morning he was given a hearing before Police Magistrate Stewart. Messrs Sammon, O'Brien and Mulligan were called as witnesses, with the Crown Attorney prosecuting, and on the evidence produced the Magistrate committed the prisoner for trial. Neither the Police Magistrate nor County Judge have jurisdiction to try the charge, so that Kruger will have to remain in gaol until December, unless admitted to bail in the meantime.

This is the first prosecution here on the charge of sedition since the outbreak of war, and the case has aroused considerable interest, a large crowd being present for the preliminary hearing. The offence is one punishable, according to the statutes, by a two-year penitentiary term.

Kruger is a man over fifty years of age, is married and has a large family. He was born in Canada, though of German descent.