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## GERMAN PROPERTY IN CANADA.

The Canadian people wish to know what has been done to discover property in Canada owned by persons living in Germany. So far Ottawa has made no official comment on the story that extensive holdings by the Kaiser in British Columbia and Alberta have been uncovered by the American authorities. If Germans across the line are holding millions of acres of Canadian timber and mineral lands as secret trustees for the Hohenzollerns, or for any other Germans or German interests, these properties should be vested in the Canadian Government pending the terms of settlement at the Peace Conference. The United States Alien Property Custodian is auctioning off German property of enormous value, the proceeds to be held until peace terms have been formulated. It comprises mines, lands, textile mills, breweries, and other industries. The Custodian, Mr. A. Mitchell Palmer, said recently:

"As I have sat here in Washington, taking over this enemy property, I could piece together the picture of Germany's industrial and commercial organization upon this soil. I could see how we mistakenly welcomed these people into America for the purpose of exploiting our great resources. I could see how they husbanded those resources for their own use and their own power, how they kept secret from America processes and patents which might some day be used against them, and how they built up industry after industry, totaling possibly \$2,000,000,000 in money value and billions more in potential political value. From what we know of Germany now, we know that she did that because she wanted to have on American soil her allies in case of trouble. She built her wharves on St. Andrew's Bay, she planted her spies in Pittsburg industries belonging to Germans; she planted them in New York, in Chicago, and the West, and fought the war (when we were neutral) on American soil through German agents in those great industries. Knowing that, let me tell you what we are going to do.

"We are going to put upon the auction block every one of these great German-owned industries in America and sell them to American citizens, and we are going to do it now. We are doing it. We have sold dozens of them already. We propose to say to Germany, now while the war is on, that her plan has dismally failed. We propose to say to Germany now that, no matter how many worlds she might conquer, no matter what price she pays, no matter what loss she suffers, no matter what armies she destroys, there is one place on God's green earth that will never again be soiled by the marching legions of her army, and that place is the United States of America."

Canadians have a right to equal frankness from their own Custodian of Alien Property. Is even any attempt being made to ferret out German holdings in Canada? While the Dominion is not asking to be indemnified for participating in the war, there are large claims against Germany for the loss of Canadian lives, through illegal, murderous practises, such as the bombing of hospitals and sinking of passenger and hospital ships, which would be paid out of German holdings in Canada if these could be detected. A statement from Ottawa is overdue.