

Canadians read many books alleged to be descriptive of the efficiency and achievements of the secret services of other countries but remain largely unaware that Canada has an establishment of like character that is second to none in the thoroughness with which it discharges the duties assigned to it. What these duties ordinarily are and how and by whom they are carried out has been told in a former special issue of *The Civilian*, to which the present reader is referred.

The war brought to the Dominion Police a multitude of new problems and new responsibilities,—problems with which the force has grappled with unvarying success, and responsibilities that were in no instance misplaced. Canada, during the first two years of the war, has enjoyed a freedom from ordinary crime almost unprecedented in her history, while the incidents of violence and disturbance traceable to a state of belligerency have been few and trifling. A neutral country has suffered a hundred-fold more crime arising out of the war than has Canada, a full participant in the struggle. Has all this been mere luck? The intelligent reader will have his own answer.

Police work at any time and of any sort is necessarily of confidential character and the work of the Dominion Police during the war is especially secret. It is, however, possible to discuss certain of the divisions of the work that the force is carrying on, though of means and methods there can be no mention.

One of the very important undertakings, and one that had to be undertaken and carried out very quickly at the commencement of the war was that of the registration, parole and internment of subjects of enemy countries then in Canada. Any observant person living at any border point during the late summer and early autumn of 1914 knows what a task this was. Thousands of army reservists and other enemy aliens sought to escape to the United States, but very few got through the police net. Of course the police alone were not able to carry out the work of stopping this very dangerous exodus. Under special powers conferred by Or-

der-in-Council, the Chief Commissioner of Police employed as auxiliaries of his own force the Immigration and Customs officers at scores of border ports and the services rendered by them were of the most valuable character.

The aliens who sought to escape from Canada were only a small percentage of those in the country who had to be looked after. Regulations required them to register and report at intervals while those who were considered to be dangerous to the peace of the country were taken into custody. To-day the number of persons so registering and reporting to officials at intervals is nearly eighty thousand, while seven thousand others are interned at Fort Henry in Kingston and other camps and places of detention. The figures are eloquent of the amount of work done in this regard, but only those who understand the wily character and immense determination of the active enemy alien can have any idea of what the police and their auxiliaries have had to contend with.

Another sort of enemy alien activity with which the police have coped is the sending of money to enemy countries. Just how the police get their clues to this practice is a mystery to the layman, but it is common knowledge that there have been numerous prosecutions and convictions of offenders against the regulation making it an offence.

Prosecution of persons trading with the enemy is another duty of the police and in detecting and securing punishment for this practice they have been highly successful.

Hundreds of enemy aliens resident in Canada and desiring to be freed