

GERMANS GUARDING BOOKS FOR ENEMIES

Story of "Loot of Leipzig Fair" Proves, on Investigation, to Be Untrue.

EXHIBITS LEFT IN HASTE

Property Abandoned at Outbreak of Hostilities Are Stored Under Lock and Key and Insurance Premiums Are Paid.

BY JAMES O'DONNELL BENNETT. (War Correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. Published by Arrangement.)

LEIPZIG, Germany, Dec. 23.—This is the true story of the so-called "loot of the Leipzig book fair."

For 16 months there have been current in all parts of the world where the German, French, Italian, English, Russian and Japanese languages are read accounts of the peremptory confiscation of the thousands of books abandoned in Leipzig at the outbreak of the war by librarians and commercial agents who had come from many parts of the world to the book fair in the great continental seat of the publishing business.

These accounts are highly discredited to the German people as a whole and to the citizens of Leipzig in particular.

The accounts are not believed by the agents and firms who are said to have suffered by the confiscation, but the rest of the world believes them.

I am confident that I have obtained the true story of what happened to the books exhibited at the fair by representatives of nations now at war.

The Leipzig book fair of 1914 (Internationale Ausstellung für Buchgewerbe und Graphik, Leipzig, 1914) was opened on May 18 and closed on October 18, but the pavilions and displays of publishing houses established in countries involved in the war were closed by order, not of the German government, but by the commissioners and agents from those warring countries upon the declaration of hostilities.

No Ill-Feeling Displayed. A book fair in Leipzig has been held for many years, but the fair in 1914 was the first international exhibit to be held in the Saxon city, well as the first in which France took part. It opened brilliantly and promised results of high advantage to the enormous publishing trade of the town and to the exhibitors from foreign countries.

The sudden departure of the French, Russian, English and Japanese agents was a source of regret, not only to them, but to the community.

There was no unfriendly demonstrations on the part of French, soiled the various parties to the trains, and, as one Leipzig publisher, a member of the great firm of Tauchnitz, said to me this morning: "The best of good feeling prevailed. I can assure you."

But, in the rush and clamor of mobilization and concentration, it was impossible for the agents from countries at war with Germany to remove their exhibits. These exhibits included thousands upon thousands of dollars' worth of treasures in specimens both of printing and binding.

There was also an extensive display of sheet music publications, a fact, probably, which prompted the composer, Saint-Saens, to enter the "loot" controversy and to declare far and wide that the Germans had "stolen" a great part of the exhibits after the departure of their owners.

French Seals Still Unbroken. The truth is that the municipality and the merchants of Leipzig were at first a good deal at a loss what to do with the abandoned books. Exhibitors after exhibitor had locked up his cases, turned the keys over to the authorities of the fair, and made a run for the first train. Only the French sealed their exhibits, and today these exhibits still bear the unbroken French seals, and anybody who wants to take a 10-minute walk from the Axtoria Hotel can see them.

The rest of the departing guests frankly turned their keys over to their hosts and said: "Look after our property for us for a few months and we'll be back." The French pavilion had been adorned with \$400,000 worth of Gobelin.

The Russians left all their property top-sy-turvy, and said, as they put their keys in the hands of Museum Director Dr. Albert Schramm, director of the scientific department of the fair: "Dear doctor, will you be so gracious to see to the packing of our exhibits?" That task was accomplished on behalf of the Russians, and the man who made the catalogue of the Russian publications soon after went into the Russian theater of war to fight the Russians. The more methodical English packed their own things, and then turned their keys over to the Leipzig-ers.

But all this mutual confidence and good will did not dispose of the problem of what to do with the books. At first there was a plan to send them after their owners, but the certainty of delays and the fear of losses either on land or sea led to the decision that the plan was impracticable.

Problem Solved by Kaiser. The German Emperor finally cut the knot by directing that all the abandoned books should be stored in Leipzig until after the war and should then be forwarded to their owners.

The first part of this instruction has been followed. The Germans not only put the treasures under lock and key but, with a thoroughness which I may describe as characteristic, made elaborate catalogues of them. Not only that, they also insured the property, and they are paying the insurance premiums.

Some of the facts I have given here were known months ago to a lady who

is one of the librarians of the New York Public Library and who attended the fair. She communicated them to the editor of the literary supplement of an American daily newspaper, but their letter never was published. I have confirmed this story at four sources of information as well as visually.

A fact that my informants brought out in connection with the statement that the French, the English and the Russians had individual pavilions at the fair was that the American exhibit, though not so elaborate, was especially creditable. The Germans say that our exhibit of library facilities and arrangements was about the best.

They were also much interested in and learned much from our exhibits illustrating model libraries for villages, towns and schools. Altogether the fair aroused more admiration among German educators.

BRITON COMPLAINS OF CONSIDERATION SHOWN NEUTRALS. Demand Made That Sea Dominion Be Used to Fullest Extent, to Grip Vitals of German Life.

LONDON, Jan. 15.—Much space is devoted in the Sunday Times to the question of the blockade. A member of Parliament, Carleton Bellairs, in a two-column article, accuses the Foreign Office of being responsible for the failure of the blockade by showing too much consideration for neutrals. The Sunday Times in editorial comment says:

The blockade of Germany can only become an effective weapon when we exert the power we already possess and decline to allow neutral nations to receive more than a rational allowance based on their actual national requirements of previous years. If it is said that, by putting stringency into being, we hurt the feelings or interests of neutrals, our answer, apart from the examples set by the belligerent nations in the past, is that the lives of the men who are fighting for freedom in four quarters of the globe are more to be studied than profits and commerce of comfortable citizens of countries at peace.

International law is going to be largely a product of Armageddon and the part played in that struggle by the British navy.

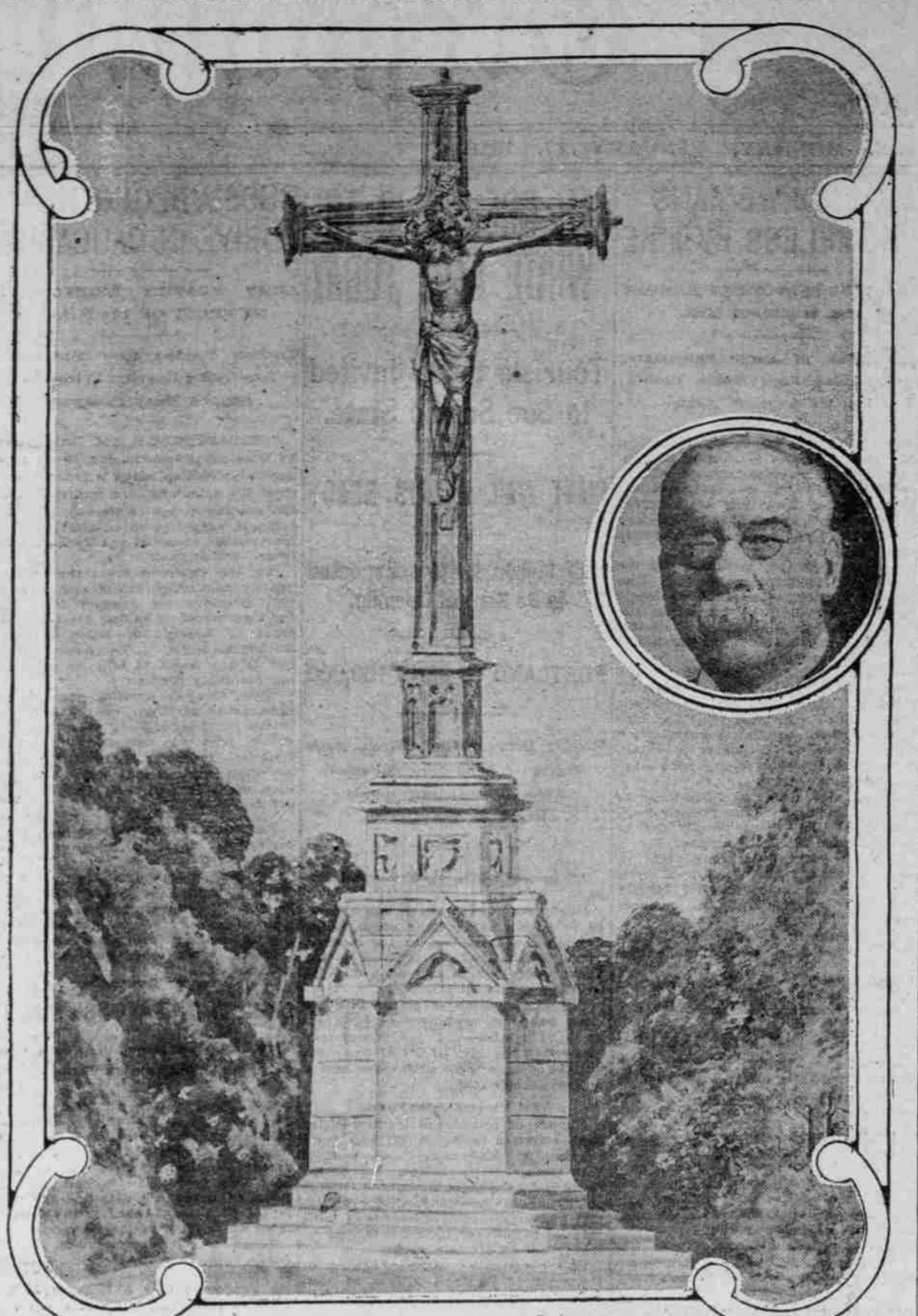
"We who control the actions of that power have at stake the life of the empire and the freedom of our allies and for our very existence we must use our sea dominion to its utmost extent.

The Foreign Office will realize that it has the full authority of the British people behind it in every step it takes to make the blockade on that shall eventually grip the vitals of German life."

McMinnville Elks Entertain. McMINNVILLE, Or., Jan. 16.—(Special.)—The local Elks Lodge entertained the Elks Lodge from Salem Thursday night. The Salem Elks came on a special train. They were met at the depot by the local Elks Band, thence, amidst music and fireworks, were paraded to the lodge rooms.

To Prevent the Grip. Cold's cause Grip—Laxative Bromo Quinine removes the cause. There is only one "BROMO QUININE"—E. W. Grove's signature on box, 75c

MEMORIAL TO MISS EDITH CAVELL TO BE ERECTED IN PARIS BY AMERICAN SUBSCRIPTIONS.



PLAN FOR CAVELL MONUMENT AND PORTRAIT OF MEN IN CHARGE OF FUND. This monument, which is to be placed in the Trocadero Gardens, Paris, to the martyred nurse, Edith Cavell, who was shot to death by the Germans in Belgium, is the design of the Gorham Company and will be of American granite and bronze. It is to be paid for by American subscriptions.

M. Lucien Henry, of Paris, heads the fund in the United States. Mr. Henry is a lifelong friend of President Poincaré of France, and formerly was tutor to the Duke of Clarence, the eldest brother of King George V. To swell the fund, an entertainment will be given at the Hippodrome, New York, January 23, at which prominent concert artists will appear.

ROMANCE IS CLOSED

Death Ends Short Wedded Life of Wade H. Rogers.

WAIT FOR BRIDE IS LONG Former Resident of Chehalis Is Victim of Pneumonia in Washington Shortly After Jocularly Denying Rumor of Death.

USE OF POWER IS URGED

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BETTER CATTLE WANTED

BREEDERS AT CHEHALIS UNITE TO RAISE STANDARDS. Cow-Testing Association Elects and Lays Plans to Improve Herds in Washington District

CHEHALIS, Wash., Jan. 16.—(Special.)—Perfection of the Lewis County Pure Breeders' Association followed a luncheon served here yesterday by the Chehalis Citizens' Club at the Hotel St. Helens. Thirty were in attendance. The organization is expected to prove a great incentive in encouraging the breeding of pure-bred stock in Lewis County and tributary county. N. B. Coffman, the Chehalis banker, who is an extensive breeder of Jerseys, was chosen president of the association, F.

Drain Cannery Elects. Farmers Net \$75 per Acre From Produce Sold at Plant.

DRAIN, Or., Jan. 15.—(Special.)—At the regular annual meeting of stockholders of the Drain Cannery and Fruit Growers' Association held in this city the following directors were elected for the coming year: J. T. Redford, Lee Barker, W. G. Cool, O. M. Rush, L. E. Newton, William Moore, H. W. Curran, H. J. Buman and A. E. Stocker. The directors met and elected the following officers: J. T. Redford, president; Lee Barker, vice-president; W. G. Cool, secretary; C. M. Rush, manager, and L. E. Newton, assistant manager.

Mathis' January Clearance

We have never had such a complete stock of suits and overcoats to offer at sale prices as we have at this time. You can make selections from our stock now, equal to any you will ordinarily find early in the season. The following are the price reductions:

- \$20 Suits and Overcoats \$15.50
\$25 Suits and Overcoats \$19.50
\$30 Suits and Overcoats \$24.50
\$35 Suits and Overcoats \$28.50
\$40 Suits and Overcoats \$32.50
Blues and Blacks included.

Proportionate Reductions on Our Stock of IMPORTED ENGLISH OVERCOATS

We have one of the best selected stocks of shirts in Portland. Prices reduced during this sale.

C. J. Mathis & Co. Men's Wear

Sixth Street Near Morrison

NATION IS OFF MAP

Berlin Regards Campaign in Montenegro as Ended.

RESISTANCE BROKEN UP

Austrians Count on Future Aid of Albanians, Whom They Will Supply With Munitions; Italy Is Deeply Disappointed.

BERLIN, via London, Jan. 15.—The Berlin newspapers treat the fall of Cetinje as practically ending the campaign in Montenegro. The Austrians advancing from there, they say, will join hands with those operating from the northeast and southeast, and further resistance can only be confined to irregular bands, dosing from one mountain fastness to another.

In such warfare the Albanians, the newspapers believe, will prove of valuable assistance to the Austrians, who will supply them with arms and ammunition, and they are now eager for the Austrians to break through to Scutari, where they will greet them as deliverers.

Military Achievement Important. As a military event the capture of Cetinje is rated high because it was defended by Mount Lovcen, which towers 5599 feet above Cattaro Bay, and was regarded as practically impregnable. Russian engineers had greatly strengthened the fortifications since the war began. They built three chains of artillery positions, the first defended chiefly with Italian cannon, the second with French 15-centimeter howitzers and the third with Russian 51 and 84-centimeter mortars.

That the Italian navy undertook no action to frustrate the Austrian attack upon Lovcen, which was within cannon shot of Cattaro Bay, is regarded not as a striking lack of prowess, but a tribute of efficiency to the Austrian submarines.

Italians Keenly Disappointed. The capture of Lovcen was commented upon in the Italian newspapers with keen disappointment. A farther southward advance by the Austrians put an end to Italy's ambitions to make the Adriatic an internal Italian sea, which was distinctly formulated in the demands Italy presented to Austria before declaring war.

German newspapers also treat the conquest of Montenegro as a decisive blow to Russia's Balkan ambitions. They assert that Italy hitherto used Montenegro, along with Serbia, as disturbing elements in the Balkans, and as outposts against Austria. While the newspapers refrain from speculating about the ultimate status of Montenegro, they conclude that its function as a Russian outpost is ended.

GOVERNMENT IS AT SCUTARI Podgoritz and Nisic Reported to Have Been Evacuated.

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The Montenegro government has arrived at Scutaria, in Macedonia, are retreating, according to a dispatch from Vienna, received by the Overseas News Agency. The foreign consulates, which had taken up quarters at Scutaria, have been moved to Alessio, an Albanian coast town 20 miles further south.

Podgoritz, to the east of Cetinje, and Nisic are said to have been evacuated by the Montenegrin forces.

TURKS ROUTED ON TIGRIS British Forces Under General Aylmer Press Enemy Closely.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—Turkish forces on both banks of the River Tigris, 25 miles south of Kut-el-Amara, in Mesopotamia, are retreating, according to an announcement made today by the Official Press Bureau. The War Office adds that after hard fighting the Turks began to withdraw January 15, and are being closely pressed by British troops under General Aylmer. The statement says: "After their defeat on January 8-9

The Turkish force opposing General Aylmer retired to a position across the Tigris at Orahe, 25 miles down stream from Kut-el-Amara.

"General Aylmer attacked the position January 13, hard fighting continuing until nightfall.

"During the evenings of January 13 and 14 the enemy began to retire, and in being closely pressed on the east and on the north by the British forces."

Oregon Breeders Win Awards. MONMOUTH, Or., Jan. 16.—(Special.)—The special award for Oregon breeders at the Panama-Pacific Exposition has been divided pro rata as follows:

the following Monmouth breeders being included in the list: Cattle, C. P. Hombree, \$259.67; G. G. Hewitt, \$12.78; Frank Loughary, \$24.66; Sheep and goats, William Riddell & Sons, \$57.31; Poultry, Mrs. M. L. Rogers, \$6.87.

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Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

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