

BIGGEST PARIS HOTEL MAN SUSPECTED OF BEING GERMAN SPY

Arthur Geissler Said to Have Built Astoria for Kaiser's Triumphant Entry.

ALL OF STAFF GERMANS

German Secret Service Said to Have Financed Bonifacis Who 10 Years Ago Was Feinleiss.

By C. F. Beffell, Staff Correspondent, I. N. S.

Paris, July 21.—(I. N. S.)—Astounding disclosures are expected at the approaching trial of Arthur Geissler, who has been jailed here on a charge of embezzling \$100,000 belonging to the shareholders of hotels in which he is interested.

Geissler was the biggest hotel man in Paris. In addition to the Astoria, which was patronized by all the leading American tourists, the Campbell, Malherbes, Beausite, Columbia and D'Auriche hotels in Paris, the exclusive Roches Noires at Trouville, and the fashionable Imperial at Nice.

What astounds Paris business men is the fact that 10 or 12 years ago Geissler was penniless. They allege that at least 10 years ago the German secret service began to finance him with a view to enabling him to corner the best hotels in Paris.

They further allege that it was on the Kaiser's own words that Geissler built the sumptuous Astoria in connection with the Kaiser's triumphant entry into Paris as conqueror. The staff of the hotel was exclusively German with the exception of the chef.

Believed Secret Agent. These allegations constitute a charge that Geissler acted as a secret agent on behalf of Germany before and during the war. In fairness to him, therefore, it must be added that no publicity has been given to him.

He is not, indeed, officially charged with espionage. At the outbreak of the war he was arrested on suspicion of having erected a wireless apparatus on the roof of the Astoria, which was a commanding position at the top of the Avenue Des Champs-Elysees with the object of intercepting official messages sent to and from the Eiffel tower, and he was lodged in a segregation camp as an enemy alien.

Books Lend Him in Jail. While Geissler was sequestered, and while verifying the books the government auditors discovered they had been tampered with. Geissler was thereupon arrested and transferred to a Paris jail.

Incidents in his career are cited as showing that he was in close touch with the inner circle in Berlin, headed by the Kaiser, which rules the destinies of the central empire. Geissler was persona grata at the German embassy, and attended official receptions. All his hotels he staffed with Germans, except the kitchens, and whenever complaints were made, it is said, Geissler refused to dispense with the German staff.

Staff of German Agents. This put a touch of mystery to his affairs, and they now rush to the conclusion that his big staff were secret German service agents. Baron von Shoen, German ambassador here when the war broke out, used the Astoria as his residence before taking over his official mansion.

French officials now claim to have found evidence that the Astoria was to be used by the Kaiser on his expected arrival in Paris at the head of his troops last August, and that a great banquet was ordered for the third week in August, which was to be the German time table. Paris was to be taken.

IMPORTERS CAN GET PORTLAND CREDIT DUE HER (Continued From Page One) part of Portland merchants to insist that their goods be thus handled, rather than to allow other ports to claim credit for business actually done here, would speedily turn the decreasing volume into an increase, is the verdict of a number of prominent business men who have had actual experience in importation.

Clears at This Port. Edward Ehrman, of Mason, Ehrman & Co., declared this morning that the policy of his company always has been to clear every shipment from abroad at this port.

velopment that every importer should make it a matter of personal business to see that no item, however small, be accredited elsewhere. The heart and soul of the campaign back to bring this port back to its own.

In spite of some discouraging expectations, the local interests of business prestige, the United Import & Trading company, for years has been requiring that all its silks, fancy cottons, linens, and other oriental wares be brought here, either direct from the far east, or in bond from the actual port of entry.

Wants "Stolen" Business Back. Albert Von der Werth, manager of this company, went decidedly on record today in favor of a common movement of merchants to wrest from competing ports the business "stolen" from Portland because of the indifference of the local interests on the one hand and the aggressiveness of the rival cities on the other.

The condition is a gradual growth, he said, and Portland has to witness the spectacle of other ports including in their statistics the figures that belong here.

Mistakes Gladly Corrected. "If any misunderstanding arises, we can step over to the custom house and straighten out in 15 minutes what would require several days to adjust if we had to correspond with the customs officials at other ports.

You may be sure the rival ports are fighting to get this business, but when an actual consignment comes to them, though billed for Portland, they will favor their own merchants by giving their goods cleared first.

That gives our competitors an earlier start in distribution of goods from the same steamer that brought ours.

But the Portland custom house were allowed to adjust these differences without having to report them to Washington, we would be saving a large amount, I understand the San Francisco customs officials are not required to do so.

But in spite of that, we believe this port has premier advantages for the Portland jobber and all should be behind the movement to restore its "ding."

Cheaper and More Expeditions. J. M. Rothchild, of Rothchild Bros., liquor dealers, said his company has abandoned importation because of the near approach of prohibition in Oregon. He stated, however, that the policy of the company has been always to have its goods shipped here either direct or in bond from the port of entry. It was found to be not only more expedient, but also more profitable for the housewife to do her own washing.

Prices May Be Out. It was agreed this morning because washing can be cut if contract work is made to meet its own cost.

PREMIER GRAIN MAN OF COAST SUCCEUMS AT LOCAL HOSPITAL

Robert Kennedy Unable to Cope With Latest Attack of Gallstones.

RUSSIA WILL MAKE SEPARATE PEACE, SO BERLIN SAYS

(Continued From Page One)

20 miles from the city. The Russians directly west and southwest, who held firmly in the face of severe attacks by Field Marshal von Hindenburg, have now fallen back, and the bringing up of heavy guns to batter down the last outer lines is now regarded as the next step in the operation which is rapidly approaching success.

Empress Goes to Front. Kaiser Wilhelm is now at the headquarters of Field Marshal von Hindenburg. The Kaiserin will leave for Warsaw Friday, it was announced today, and it is understood she plans to enter Warsaw with the Kaiser when the victorious German armies march into the city.

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SOUSA SEAT SALE ON WITH RUSH

John Philip Sousa, who will be heard with his band at the Oaks Auditorium next Sunday and Monday.

MAN-CLAY'S

One peculiarity about John Philip Sousa is that he knows exactly what his audiences want, and he gives it to them. They want music to stir them up, to rouse their flagging energies—a ringing march, a quaint musical curio, a novelty, something anything, to brighten them up.

The regular admission price to the park will prevail. Reserved seats for Sousa cost \$1 each, and include admission to the park, if bought in advance at Sherman-Clay & Co., Sixth and Morrison streets, yet already a large block of seats have been disposed of.

Over 100 mail orders have been attended to already, said John F. Cordray, manager of The Oaks, this morning. Concerts will be given afternoon and night on both days.

The entire auditorium has been reserved for the Sousa engagement, which is a special one, and will not interfere with the regular Oaks Sunday show which will be given elsewhere in the park.

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denly at the hospital yesterday. He had been a resident of Portland for 21 years, and for several years has been chairman of the grand standard committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce.

TOWN TOPICS

Mrs. M. Buckrick Dies.—Mrs. Margaret Buckrick, who died in this city July 20, was a native of Wales and was 69 years of age. She had lived in Portland for the past 25 years, and was survived by one son, Edward Hays, of this city.

J. E. Truman Passes Away.—J. R. Truman, who died at his home, 1120 Clinton street, late last night, was one of the pioneers of Oregon, crossing the plains 50 years ago. He had been a resident of Portland for the past 40 years.

Novo Georgievsk is now being bombarded. At the same time German infantry is storming the angle formed by the Vistula and Vkra rivers. In this region the Russians are offering strong resistance. They are entrenched behind intricate systems of entanglements and the positions which must be carried by the attacking forces are extremely well defended.

On the southern front the advance of Field Marshal von Mackensen continues unchecked. The great German army is now being directed from Lublin toward Groje in satisfactory fashion, with the Russians reported in steady retreat.

Advances Along Railroad. In the fighting between Blonie and Jozefow the Germans are endeavoring to advance along the railroad leading into Warsaw, with many of the engagements much nearer the city.

In the Baltic provinces General von Bulow continues to advance upon Riga.

Boy Files for Damages. Pendleton, Or., July 21.—Alleging injuries that will make him deaf for life, Ray Scott, 11 year old son of Clyde Scott, a local barber, today brought suit against Arthur Haakel, a Pilot Rock farmer, for \$5000 damages.

The boy was hurt on September 25 of last year when playing in front of the school which he was attending. The complainant alleges that his eardrum was broken, leaving him permanently deaf and that he also sustained other injuries. He alleges the car was being driven carelessly and at a dangerous rate of speed.

Funeral of Mrs. Cartwright.—The funeral of the late Mrs. Charlotte M. Cartwright, prominent pioneer woman, of this city, who died at Gearhart yesterday, will be held at the Holman undertaking parlors, Third and Salmon streets, at 10 a. m., Friday, July 23.

North Portland Club Meets.

The North Portland Commercial club met last night in the branch library at Killingsworth avenue and Commercial street, for the purpose of closing up the accounts for the Fourth of July celebration and to make arrangements for the summer. The officers of the club are: Attorney Emil M. Orth, president; H. B. Haid, vice president; O. T. Jonson, secretary; H. A. Rubie, treasurer.

Why Not Spend These Warm, moonlight nights at Cedar Island, up the Willamette, by boat or O. W. F. train? Bathing and dancing. Phone Astoria 7409. Taber 6111 for information. (Adv.)

Married People's Club.—The Married People's club of the Sellwood Methodist church will hold a basket lunch entertainment tonight.

Overlook to the Queen's Feast.—Mrs. W. C. T. U. Meeting.—The Sunnyside W. C. T. U. will meet Thursday afternoon at 8 o'clock, at the Holman undertaking parlors, Third and Salmon streets, at 10 a. m., Friday, July 23.

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Thursday We Offer a General Clearance of Hundreds of Dozens of Aprons. \$1.00 Aprons, Apron Dresses and Belgian Sets for 79c.

45c Coverall Aprons Clearance 29c. 50c Coverall Aprons Clearance 39c. 65c and 75c Coverall Aprons for 50c.

Rubber Aprons Clearance 45c and 50c. All ready to hang at your windows Scrim and Marquisette Curtains.

Here is the Most Popular Sports Skirt Of White Velvet Golline Special \$5.45.

FOR KNIT UNDERWEAR AND HOSIERY NO STORE IS AS SATISFACTORY AS THIS STORE.

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\$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 Brassieres. Cross back and hook front styles, reinforced \$69c under arms.

A Visit to our Millinery Shop will bring you to an exhibit of Advance Modes in Satin and Velvet Hats. Very Special \$5.95.

