

THREE SUPPOSED SPIES ARRESTED ON A LINER BOUND FOR MONTREAL

One of the biggest sensations of a transatlantic voyage, which has occurred since the capture of Dr. Crippen on an ocean liner some years ago, was experienced by the passengers on board the S.S. Hesperian, from Liverpool to Montreal, when three German spies, travelling as passengers, under English names, were trapped by a Scotch passenger and placed under arrest by the captain's order, when the vessel was three days out to sea.

Under the names of George Walter and wife, and Fredric Thomas, they appeared on the deck of the ocean liner a well behaved, smartly dressed party of three, who friendly with the other passengers until the vital question of war broached and became the inevitable magnet around which all the passengers were drawn, and which they joined in as listeners and as story tellers of the great and all-absorbing topic of conversation.

At no time during the first days of the voyage did the three, who were apparently English, take part more than to ask the latest news. On the third day at dinner, when the big Scotchman was at his meal, and there were also a British ex-officer and a retired merchant, who was loth to express his opinion of the treatment handed out to the women and children, the talk centred on the reported acts of horror perpetrated by the Germans in cutting off the hands of the Red Cross nurses on the battle field.

Denouncing the atrocities in the most bitter terms he could conjure up, and classing the acts of the soldiers of the enemy as pages taken out of the Dark Ages, the outspoken Scotchman was thunderstruck and the audience amazed to hear a woman's voice in defence of the Germans' wanton brutality. "It serves them right. Everybody is down on the Germans."

There was an instant of absolute silence, the suddenness of the interruption being as nothing to the effect of the words when the company realized what the woman had said.

Accompanied by her husband, she at once left the room with the eyes all on the two forms as they turned to their stateroom. There was no lost time in communicating with the captain and imparting their suspicions of the woman and her companions. The passengers demanded their detention in the boat locker and a search made of the stateroom. In a short time this was agreed to by the captain, and accompanied by the retired ex-officer the captain conducted a search with the result that he was convinced that there were on the boat at least three spies of the Kaiser.