

CANADIAN TELLS OF AUSTRIA AFTER WAR

Miss Cross, of Vankleek Hill, Insists Bohemians Dislike Present War.

Vanleek Hill, March 16.—Miss Margaret Cross, daughter of Mr. Albert J. Cross, Vanleek Hill, reached home last Friday after some interesting experiences in Austria.

Miss Cross has resided for nearly four years in Austria, most of which time she spent in Bohemia. She is a professional violinist, and has been studying music there under a famous Bohemian professor.

At the beginning of hostilities Miss Cross was obliged to cancel her concert engagements in Sicily and has been waiting for an opportunity to return home, but until a month ago no permission was granted her to leave Austria. Any attempt to leave without permission might have resulted in imprisonment. She travelled to Genoa, Italy, from where she took passage on the Finland for New York.

Miss Cross, while in Italy, had conversations with several prominent military officials. One of these officials told her that beyond any question Italy and Roumania would be at war with Austria inside of two months, and in all probability sooner. He said that all preparations were nearly completed in Italy. Miss Cross has great admiration for the people of Bohemia, and says they are an afflicted people under the rule of the Austrian Government. They dislike the German people, and desire their former independence. Bohemians have an intense dislike for this war. They are a peace-loving, very intellectual, and highly cultured people.

War Unpopular.

She saw Bohemian troops leave for the front with bands of crepe attached to their caps. When the officers remonstrated a riot was threatened. One man was arrested and imprisoned, and the soldiers refused to go further unless he was at once liberated. He was liberated, but was later re-arrested, and he and two other leaders were given long terms in prison. Women and children were forbidden to go to the station to say farewell to their loved ones, and another riot occurred. The soldiers overpowered the police officers in charge, and the friends of the soldiers took possession of station platforms.

Kaiser Wilhelm is held entirely responsible for the war by all the Bohemians with whom Miss Cross discussed the matter. The feeling is much more bitter towards him than towards any one other individual in any of the countries at war.