

SEIZE GERMAN SPIES WORKING IN TORONTO

Registrar of Aliens Interns
Two of Cleverest Teuton
Emissaries in Canada

WERE WATCHING
EXHIBITION CAMP

Dropped Note-book Leads
to Discovery of
Purpose

"Two of the cleverest German spies in Canada"—according to the statement of Mr. A. J. Russell Snow, K.C., Registrar of Alien Enemies—were arrested in Toronto on Saturday and interned at Stanley Barracks. These men are Gustave Kiefer and Godfried Moser, of the firm of Kiefer, Moser & Co., importers and exporters, 1 Brock avenue.

The circumstances which led to their apprehension are distinctly dramatic in character. The production of Kiefer's note-book, secured near Exhibition camp, and containing several pages of carefully prepared observations and notes in German, resulted in immediate action. It is probable that the military authorities will conduct further searching investigation into the conduct and operations of the whole "firm."

George A. Harum, commission agent, 78 Wilson avenue, and former Lieutenant in the German army, was also interned Saturday. He has for some months been under observation by the military authorities and police and was several times found hanging around Exhibition Camp under the pretence of selling candles to the soldiers. He has lately been trying to get a permit to visit Niagara. This led to his arrest.

Conan Doyle might weave a story around the circumstances which led to the apprehension and internment of Kiefer and Moser. Detective Godfrey Maurer of the Police Department, is the Sherlock Holmes of the narrative, his assistants a representative of The Globe and two Canadian soldiers recently quartered at Exhibition Camp.

Note-book in German.

The clue which led to the arrests was a note-book, picked up near the Exhibition Camp, containing several pages of what appeared to be very carefully prepared notes in German, written in red ink. The writing was German and the book was believed to have dropped from the pocket of one of the three men who had been "hanging round" the outskirts of the camp. This created suspicion and The Globe man decided to investigate. Failing to decipher the inscriptions, he determined to hold the book until he found someone who could, but as it contained no name there seemed little hope of tracing the owner. However, he proceeded to Detective Maurer, who, being a Swiss, has rendered very valuable assistance to the Registrar of Aliens.

Officer Finds Notes Interesting.

The book was handed to Detective Maurer in the Registrar's office on Thursday last, without any explanation. The detective began to devour its contents with avidity.

"Whose book is this?" he asked, after reading the first page.

"What is it all about?" asked The Globe.

"Where did you get it?" persisted the officer.

"Is it poetry?" insisted the reporter, "The Chant of Hate?"

The detective searched the book

from end to end impatiently for some mark of identification. "Where have I seen this book before?" he mused. On being told where the book was found he said he would like to study it more closely, promising to write out a translation.

Book is Identified.

On Friday the detective suddenly remembered he had seen the book among the papers of a suspected German, Gustave Kiefer, whose rooms he had searched a few months before. The book had a peculiar brown cloth binding, and the handwriting in red ink seemed familiar.

The following is a literal translation of the notes contained in the book. The sentences in black type were underlined by the Registrar of Aliens as being of special significance:

Translated Text.

"This little book has as its object to assist enterprising Germans the better to get an insight into the different and certain conditions, chief locations and statistics, and how, with very little capital, one can take, at least, a part of the resources from the English in their own colonies. It further has the object to show how German industries can successfully be advanced and introduced into the world.

"It will always remain a fact that as long as one can draw the considerable business to one's self, and every business man, and especially the one that is acquainted with foreign conditions, knows the enormous sums required to open a branch in the colonies, and often has a want of such knowledge brought continual loss and ruin to good German houses, to get back that which was lost.

"About export: The enormous cheap prices are obtained only by overproduction and the preference of English under the cloak of patriotism of rivals. The only thing left now for the German industry is to send her own pioneers to the English dumping ground. Here also the enterprising German public should be shown how money, if wisely invested, can bring a good speculative interest on the capital.

"Where, and in what way, this can be done will be here shown. Canada: its geographical position, its borders,

"Its size in square miles. Its mountains and reserves (Indian). Its lakes, size and importance for navigation.

"Its population, races and different nations.

"Its political position regarding England and the Government.

"Its importance in regard to fruitfulness.

"Its mines. Its imports and exports to and from Germany.

"Its cities and ports. Its railways and canals.

"Its conditions in regard to tea. (Some lines missing) and the United States and Europe and Australia, also with Asia. The length of time for connections of postal for persons and for freight, as also banks and their connections.

"Montreal (Toronto) city picked out.

"Its position, population, its industry. Their ports, railway connections. Its environments. The hinterland. Its unity and political position.

"Canada's banks."

Registrar Takes Action.

Mr. A. J. Russell Snow, K.C., the Registrar, after reading this, at once ordered Kiefer to be brought before him.

Detective Maurer visited the office of Kiefer, Moser & Company Saturday morning. Taking the notebook from his pocket, he asked Kiefer if it belonged to him. The German changed color and admitted the ownership. The following dialogue ensued:

"Where did you lose it?"

"I don't know."

"Have you been at the Exhibition grounds?"

"Yes, I was there once."

"When did you write this?"

"About two months before the war."

Kiefer went on to explain that he was getting up a company.

Conduct Arouses Suspicion.

Both Kiefer and Moser had been objects of suspicion since January last, and their movements had been closely watched. They were known to have made unusual night trips to Buffalo in an auto. Moser had tried to secure an exeat to visit the United States. He represented that he had friends in Amsterdam who were sending money to Trenton, N.J., and he wanted to go there and get it. The money was to be invested in the manufacturing of new patent braces. After some inquiries the exeat was refused. Later on Kiefer asked for permission to go to Tavistock, Ont., but Mr. Snow thought that place was too handy for slipping over the line. Kiefer had first stated that he was an American subject, and when asked for his papers he said they were in the office. His office was searched, but no papers could be found. He then stated that the papers were in Chicago.

"German Spies," Says Registrar.

All of this went against Kiefer and Moser when they appeared before Mr. Russell Snow on Saturday. Kiefer's explanations of the notes failed to convince the Registrar. The Registrar told them he had come to the conclusion that they were both German spies. Kiefer had on several occasions displayed German flags outside of his premises, and when the Registrar asked him why he had done this he denied that he had put the flags out. He said they were put out by a man named Smith, but he could not say which Smith. Asked if he had any German friends in Toronto, Kiefer replied that he had associated as much as possible with English people. This admission proved the last nail.

How They Worked.

"That has been your policy," said Mr. Snow, "to get to know all you could from the British people for the purpose of beating them out of their trade and advancing the political and commercial interests of Germany."

Both Kiefer and Moser are expert

draughtsmen; they are well educated, alert and keen, with plenty of self-assertion. The Registrar stated to The Globe that he believed he had secured "two of the cleverest German spies in Canada."

Kiefer is twenty-three years of age. Moser is twenty-six. They are natives of Karlsruhe, Germany, and have been in Canada two years. They were interned on the finding: "Cannot, consistently with public safety, be allowed at large."

The authorities are investigating the case of Harum to ascertain if he was working in or with the same "firm."