

ZIRZOW TEARS PAPER GIVEN  
TO HIM IN THE WITNESS BOX

# Crammed Paper Into His Pocket Despite Protests of Counsel

## ARMED GUARDS RECOVER PAPER

### Document Was An Affidavit of His Own Made Before

"Did Mr. Nerlich give you a good dinner at the Prince George?" Mr. W. C. Mikel, K.C., Crown counsel, was questioning Arthur Zirzow about his second meeting with the accused.

"Yes," replied Zirzow, smiling in pleasant memory.

"Did you have any liquors?"

"Yes, we had one."

"It was probably not French wine," suggested Mr. Hellmuth.

Discussion arose between counsel as to whether it was liquor or liqueur that Zirzow took. The question was referred to Zirzow.

"I do not understand," said he.

"Did you take Scotch or Rye?" asked Mr. Mikel.

"It was not whiskey," declared Mr. Mikel, when Zirzow showed indecision.

"When I was in Mr. Nerlich's office I wanted to talk about the war. He said he did not want to talk about the war," said Zirzow.

#### Wanted to Fight.

Later he said that the first time he had met Mr. Nerlich he had told him that he wanted to go to fight. That was the only time he had made a statement to Mr. Nerlich, said Zirzow.

"Whose signature is that?" asked Mr. Mikel, placing a sheet of paper in Zirzow's hands.

The next moment there was a sound of rending paper. Zirzow had torn off the lower part of the paper. And in spite of Mr. Mikel's protest, he tore it again and started to cram the fragments into his pockets.

One of the military guards intervened and took the torn paper from the pocket of their prisoner in the witness box. Zirzow went very white, but made no further resistance to the procedure of the court. The paper was an affidavit of statements Zirzow said he had heard Nerlich make to a friend.

#### He Was Excited.

"I was excited and was forced to sign the document by the men who made it," said Arthur Zirzow, referring to the written statement he had torn. He said Detective Maurer and Sergeant Lees had made him make a statement as bad as he could against Mr. Nerlich.

"They said, 'If you sign every paper shown to you you will get out to-morrow, or as soon as we have finished this investigation. If you don't sign you will be imprisoned for at least seven years.' I signed because I did not think it would do Mr. Nerlich any harm. It can't."