

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE DYNAMITED BY GERMAN

C.P.R. Structure Over St. Croix
River is Damaged

VAN HORN HELD IN THE U S

Escapes Into State of Maine and is
Detained by Immigration Authori-
ties Pending Legal Action by Can-
adians—New War Problem

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Washington, Feb. 2.—It is
said that the State Department
will immediately order that
Werner Von Horn be turned over
to the Canadian authorities.
There is no confirmation here of
his alleged confession that he
worked for a band of New York
and Maine conspirators.

Vanceboro, Me., Feb. 2.—Another
international problem incident to the
war was thrust upon the United States
to-day by the action of Werner Van
Horn, who, operating on the Can-
adian side of the border, dynamited
the railroad bridge over the St. Croix
River, and then escaped into the
State. A few hours later, in a room
at a hotel here, Van Horn quietly
submitted to arrest, but immediately
proclaimed himself an officer of the
German army and set up the claim
that he had committed an act of war
and, having fled to a neutral country,
could not be legally surrendered to an
enemy of the Fatherland.

The Canadian authorities took a
different view of the matter, and a-
pace instituted proceedings to obtain
the extradition of the prisoner on
charge of destruction of railway prop-
erty. Pending the outcome of these
efforts, Van Horn is held at the im-
migration office here in custody of

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INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE DYNAMITED BY GERMAN

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3.)

Deputy Sheriff George W. Ross of Washington county.

Bridge Not Badly Damaged.

The bridge which Van Horn sought to destroy was not greatly damaged. Within a few hours cars were shunted across one at a time, the passengers walking over on the ice. By morning, railway officials said, the bridge would be strong enough for trains to use it without uncoupling.

According to the police, Van Horn, a man of middle age, and of military bearing, told them that he left Germany five years ago, and for the past four years had been managing a coffee plantation in Mexico. Recently he made unsuccessful attempts to return to his native land.

Friday night he left New York city, arriving here Saturday night, and putting up at a hotel. That same night by appointment he met a man, unknown to him personally, at the east end of the bridge. The man gave him a satchel containing dynamite. Van Horn suspended the satchel from the inside of an end post of the bridge, and about 2 o'clock this morning discharged the explosive.

This done, he planned to go to Lambert Lake, from which point he intended to drive about 30 miles to Princeton. The night was intensely cold and he suffered so much that he was unable to carry out this purpose, and so he returned to the hotel. There the police found him in bed at 7 o'clock this morning. At the request of the Canadian officers he was taken into custody.

Maine Holds Van Horn.

To-night Attorney-General William R. Pattangall sent word from Augusta to Deputy-Sheriff Ross to hold Van Horn until further orders. While there was no formal charge preferred against him at first, arrangements were made to have Trial Justice George H. Smith issue a warrant against Van Horn if necessary in order to make certain his detention.

Van Horn, the officials state, could be charged with damage to a railroad bridge, which is an extraditable offence under an agreement between the United States and Canada, or with damage to property on the American side of the border, where windows were broken by the explosion. Up to this evening, however, no warrant had been issued. Van Horn had not seen a lawyer, and appeared to take his detention coolly, apparently indifferent as to what charges may be preferred against him.

C. P. R. to Make Complaint.

Deputy-Sheriff Ross promptly communicated with John S. P. H. Wilson, United States Marshal for Maine, and with Arthur Chapman, Assistant U. S. District Attorney, both of whom reside in Portland. In the meantime the Attorney-General of New Brunswick, J. B. M. Baxter, had telegraphed to officials of the Canadian Pacific Railway here, asking them to make a complaint against Van Horn which might be the basis for extradition proceedings to be begun forthwith. Ottawa was also advised of the situation.

It is understood that a preliminary move will be to determine whether Van Horn has any standing as a German officer, and if it can be established that he has not the matter of his general responsibility will be inquired into.

When Van Horn was searched the police claim to have found upon him a drawing of the bridge. He has steadfastly refused to make any explanation on this point, and denied that he knew the identity of the man who supplied the dynamite. The police are searching for this man, but had found no trace of him to-night.

C. P. R. Official Statement.

Montreal, Feb. 2.—The C. P. R. official statement follows:

"At 2 o'clock this morning an explosion of dynamite slightly damaged the bridge over the St. Croix River near Vanceboro, the joint property of the Maine Central Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway. Only a slight delay occurred to traffic, No. 16 train, Montreal to St. John, being twenty minutes late. Passenger trains are crossing the bridge, passengers not requiring to leave the cars.

"A suspicious looking stranger has been hanging around the neighborhood for the past few days and a full description of him was put into the hands of the United States and Canadian police, who captured him at 7.30. He proved to be a German officer, and is said to have admitted the deed. He is now in charge of the United States marshal at Vanceboro.

"The bridge is located at the international boundary, and a steel beam has been damaged, also six bridge ties and an inside bolster post."

An official of the C. P. R., discussing the incident at Vanceboro, said:

"It is unfortunate that the crime should have been committed, but it serves to show the wisdom of the company in recently engaging over 2,000 extra men as special watchmen on the bridges of its system."

Can be Extradited.

St. John, N.B., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, Attorney-General of New Brunswick, in a statement issued late to-night gave it as his opinion that Van Horn can be extradited. To avoid possible complications, the local authorities made no further move pending advice from the Federal Government. The Canadian authorities indicated that they would make immediate representations at Washington with a view to extradition, on the ground that the dynamiting had been done on the Canadian side of the border.