

**Warrant for German Officer
Who Blew Up C. P. R. Bridge**

Creates Debateable International Problem--His Act Apparently Part of German Treachery to Turn Americans Against the British.

CLAIMS THIS ACT OF WAR AND SEEKS AMERICAN PROTECTION

(Special to Evening Review.)

VANCEBORO, Me., Feb. 2.—A warrant charging destruction of a railway bridge was expected to be issued here today against Werner Van Horne, the alleged dynamiter of the international bridge between Canada and the United States, an a self-proclaimed German officer. The warrant would serve to hold Van Horne in custody pending the outcome of extradition proceedings, which will likely develop into international significance.

The New York Sun special correspondent at Montreal last night writes: Werner Van Horne, the supposed German secret service officer who blew up the C. P. R. bridge at Vanceboro this morning, has projected another unpleasant international problem into the somewhat tangled relations between Great Britain and the United States.

Canadian officials here believe that this was his deliberate plan, or rather that he was the instrument of a plot conceived for this purpose by a German society in New York.

From a strictly military viewpoint there was nothing to be gained. Neither troops nor supplies are being carried over this road through Maine. But the international possibilities are many. The bridge is jointly owned by American and Canadian companies—the Maine Central and Canadian Pacific railroad. It has one end in the United States and one in Canada. Van Horne, while careful to dynamite the Canadian end, was careful also to cross into American territory after the crime. He invited, instead of avoided, arrest, and when taken by the United States authorities not only admitted his guilt, but supplied evidence of it in blueprints and dynamite caps.

He claims his offence is a legitimate act of war and punishable only by the enemy as a political crime. If his contention is correct, he cannot be extradited nor can he be punished in the United States for an offence committed in Canada.

The only immediate result apparent is a renewal of the military guards on all railway bridges and culverts. These home men have been kept on day and night since the war began until a few weeks ago. Nothing had happened anywhere, so vigilance was relaxed.

Passengers who were on the Boston and Montreal trains and were delayed at Vanceboro describe Van Horne as a military looking man about middle age, respectably dressed and very talkative.

While they were in the station waiting for their cars to be pushed across the bridge Van Horne talked quite freely with them.

Washington in Dark.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 2.—State department officials said today they had received no report of the dynamiting of the Canadian Pacific-Maine Central railroad bridge at St. Croix, Canada.

It is not expected that the state department will be brought into the case unless there is a movement for the extradition of the man Van Horne, now under arrest on the Maine side, and said to have admitted responsibility for the damage.

The natural course of events will be for Van Horne's case to be passed on by a United States commissioner sitting in extradition proceedings to hear the demand of the Canadian authorities for his surrender to their custody. The function of the state department is to review such extradition proceedings.

It is reported that Van Horne claims to be a German officer. If he can prove that he is an officer of the German army regularly attached, it is thought he may be able to claim immunity from extradition on the ground that he did not commit a crime, but an act of war. It is doubted if he will be able to establish this claim of immunity, however, if he is merely a reservist. In the event that he proves he is a German officer and claims to

have committed an act of war in attempting to destroy the bridge, it is presumed the United States authorities would be compelled to intern him on the ground that he had taken refuge in neutral territory to escape from the enemy. Inasmuch as the facts have not been officially reported and the case is not yet before this government, officials here refuse to give any definite views as to the many possible status.

Apply for Extradition.

OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 2.—The Canadian government has applied to the American authorities for the extradition of Werner Van Horne, arrested in connection with the blowing up of a Canadian Pacific railroad bridge spanning the International line.

Van Horne was arrested in Vanceboro, Me., but as the offence was committed on Canadian territory, his extradition is sought that he may be tried by the Canadian courts on a charge of destruction of railway property.

The application of the Canadian government for the person of Van Horne has been forwarded to the British ambassador at Washington for submission to the American administration.