

EMIL NERLICH FOUND NOT GUILTY OF TREASON

Accused Burst Into Tears and His Brother Kissed Him After Foreman of Jury Had Announced Finding—Charges of Trading With Enemy Stand Until Next Assizes.

Emil Nerlich is free.

The jury were out for nearly five and three-quarter hours. They left the Court room at noon. They were recalled at ten minutes past twelve for further instruction. They returned to the Court room at 38 minutes past five.

"We find the accused, Emil Nerlich, not guilty," said the foreman.

Mr. W. G. Mason rose to shake hands with his client. Mr. Nerlich appeared distressed by the sudden release from the strain of the afternoon's suspense. Tears filled his eyes. He asked for water. He appeared to find his collar tight. A moment later he was composed.

Someone in the Court room started to clap. The voices of a dozen constables shouted for order. The disturbance was quelled before it reached further dimensions.

BROTHER HENRY KISSED HIM.

Tears ran down Mr. Nerlich's face as he stood in the dock to be discharged. As he left the dock his brother, Henry, kissed him.

His Lordship said that though he might bring a charge of contempt of court against Arthur Zirzow for attempting to tear up a document, he would not do so, as the prisoner was interned. He would have instructed such a charge to be brought had he not feared it might prejudice the jury against the accused.

"It seems to indicate what we have heard so much about lately—the absolute disregard of officers trained in the German army for all civil rights and customs."

"You do not mind shaking hands with Mr. Nerlich?" said Mr. I. P. Hellmuth, K.C., as he brought the liberated man to meet his erstwhile prosecutor.

"Why, not at all," said Mr. Mikel, warmly shaking Mr. Nerlich by the hand.

Congratulations followed Mr. Nerlich until he left the building.

"It is all right now," said his brother in the ante-chamber, and Mr. Nerlich nodded, too much overcome for speech.

Before the court adjourned Mr. Mikel said that Sergt. Lees desired publicly to refute the accusation made against him by Zirzow that he (Zirzow) had been influenced by the Sergeant to make false statements.

"This," said Mr. Mikel, "might be detrimental to the sergeant's military standing."

His Lordship gave public utterance to the fact that though the Sergeant had not been permitted to give evidence, he was present in the court to refute the statement made by Zirzow.