

DENIES ACCUSATION OF BEING ALIEN ENEMY OF BRITAIN

J. H. Knisley Presents Formid- able Epistle In Reply to Ald. McArthur

To refute the assertion made by Ald. McArthur in the council chamber Tuesday afternoon that the bandmaster of the Newsboys' band was an alien enemy, the following letter was sent to City Clerk Cox today:

The Council of the City of Edmonton,
Civic block, Edmonton, Alberta.

Gentlemen—I am informed that at the meeting of the council of the city of Edmonton, held on Tuesday, the 3rd day of August, 1915, it was stated by Ald. McArthur that the leader of the Newsboys' band of Edmonton was an "alien enemy" of Great Britain, that a portion of the band funds went to pay the salary of this "alien enemy" and that he objected as a taxpayer to this being done, as practically all of the money the council voted went to this "alien enemy of ours."

I am the leader of the Edmonton Newsboys' band and I beg to inform you as follows:

My grandfather moved into the province of Ontario from the state of Pennsylvania, in or about the year 1800 and settled in the vicinity of what is now Selkirk (Haldimand county), Ontario, where my father was born in the year 1819. Shortly after moving into Ontario my grandfather married Elizabeth Hoover, the daughter of one of the settlers of that part of Canada. My father married Anna Yeager, who was also born in Ontario, and they lived in the vicinity of Selkirk, aforesaid, all their lives, where I was born in 1867. I lived on the old farm at Selkirk and went to school there until the year of 1888, when I moved to Buffalo, in the state of New York. Previous to moving into Ontario, my grandfather lived in the state of Pennsylvania, from which state he moved into Ontario. I left the United States in the year 1910, when I moved to the province of Alberta and filed on a homestead in the Lloydminster district. Later, leaving the homestead, I moved to this city, where I have been constantly residing for the past four years. As far as I am aware none of my ancestors are of German origin or any other nationality which would fall within the pale of "alien enemy."

I have at all times been a strong supporter of organized labor.

I place this letter before you in order to remove the slur which has been thrown upon my nationality as publicly as it was made, and to relieve the minds of any citizens of this city as to whether or not any of their money is being paid to an "alien enemy of ours," as I am a Canadian subject by birth.

Yours,

J. H. KNISLEY.