

AIDING ALIENS TO LEAVE COUNTRY

Three Residents of Huntingdon Faced Charge at Valley- field Yesterday

POLICE AIDE'S EVIDENCE

Testified He Gave One of Trio \$40, and Other Accused Took Him Into United States

Valleyfield, September 30th. — Charged with having assisted alien enemies out of the country, J. B. Francoeur, alias Hart, John Lefebvre and Alexander Lefebvre, all three of Huntingdon, Que., appeared this morning before district magistrate Emile Marin, sitting at Valleyfield, and pleaded not guilty. Owing to the lack of a stenographer to take the evidence, nothing could be done until this afternoon, by which time a stenographer from Montreal had arrived.

The Crown is represented by Mr. J. G. Laurendeau, and the prisoners by Mr. J. A. Legault. Only one witness was heard today, Joseph Brohasky, an Austrian, who had been used, according to his evidence, to entrap Hart, whom Inspector Rioux, of the Dominion Police, working under the direction of Registrar of Aliens at Montreal, had suspected for some time.

The charge laid against the accused is based on the legislation passed at the last session of Parliament, that "Everyone is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to two years' imprisonment who incites or assists any subject of any foreign state or country at war with His Majesty to leave Canada without the consent of the Crown, unless the person accused can

prove that such assistance to the enemy was not intended, when such inciting or assisting do not amount to treason."

Brohasky's evidence was to the effect that on the 16th of September he went to Hart in Huntingdon and asked him to take him across the line to the United States, saying that he was an Austrian and wanted to go to the States. Hart hesitated at first, said the witness, and then asked him for \$40 for the work, saying that it was more difficult to take men across now than at the beginning of the war.

MEETING AT MIDNIGHT.

"'Give me \$40,' he said to me. I told him that I had only \$20, but would give him \$24 as I could get another \$4. He said it would not do."

Brohasky testified that he had then said that he had a cousin living a short distance away, and he would go to him and get more money. Hart then gave him a written direction for the road to Vase Crutcher, towards which he was to go, saying that he would not be suspected. He went there, and came back at midnight the next day, Saturday the 11th, Hart having told him to come at midnight. He gave Hart the \$40, which had been handed to him by Inspector Rioux. He testified that he had been told to do what he had done by the detectives, who had told him that they were suspicious that Hart was engaged in getting men across the line.

After paying Hart, the latter had told him to go into the street, walk along, and an automobile would meet him. He did so. Alexander Lefebvre, the youngest of the Lefebvre brothers, going with him, and the auto soon came along with John Lefebvre in it. They drove to Charebusco, 18 miles from Huntingdon, and across the line. He was left there and an American detective took charge of him. This detective, the witness said, was working with Inspector Rioux. The Amer-

ican detective took him back to the border line, and turned him over to the Canadian immigration authorities. This completed his evidence for the day. He will be further examined tomorrow.

Brohasky lived in Montreal for a time, and was made to register when the war broke out. He attempted to cross the line himself, was captured and interned. Later he was released and worked with the police authorities.