

# RESPA TO SERVE LIFE SENTENCE

**Alien Enemy** Guilty of the  
Dynamite Plot

## JUDGE'S STRONG REMARKS

**No Defence Was Offered—Jury Re-  
turned a Verdict After a Few Min-  
utes' Deliberation—Accused's Con-  
fession Settled Fate.**

(Staff Correspondence of The Globe.)

Windsor, March 7.—“I can find nothing in your case to excite pity or sympathy. You have not even the poor excuse of a misguided feeling of devotion or spurious loyalty to some country with which we are at war. In planting those devilish devices when you did, you were, for the miserable reward of two hundred pieces of silver, acting the part of the hired assassin.”

With this stinging utterance Chief Justice Sir Glenholme Falconbridge to-day, at the Sandwich Court House, committed Charles Respa, a German **enemy** from Detroit, to the Kingston Penitentiary for the rest of his natural life. The fate of Respa, who was found guilty upon the serious charge of dynamiting the Peabody Sales Corporation, Limited, plant at Walkerville on June 21, 1915, and of having attempted to blow up the Windsor Armouries, was decided by the jury after a deliberation of twenty-five minutes.

### Prisoner Was Silent.

“Have you anything to say before sentence is passed upon you?” asked the clerk.

“He informs me that he has no statement to make,” replied Mr. R. L. Brackin, Chatham, counsel for Respa.

After sentence had been passed the handful of spectators in the court were ordered to remain seated until Respa had been escorted to his cell.

Receiving the verdict, his Lordship said:

“It has not been my practice in numerous cases in which it is necessary to impose the extreme penalty of the law to call the prisoner's attention to the utter weakness of the crime. Respa, you have had sufficient time for reflection as to the seriousness of the crime while awaiting trial. If the engine of destruction which you placed at the Windsor Armouries had not failed to connect, you would have been the murderer of hundreds of sleeping men. If you, in your consideration of this vile work, have failed to bring home to your hard conscience the seriousness of it, my words would not do so. You came across from a country which is at peace with us, and committed a horrible deed.”

The Chief Justice added that he was exceedingly well pleased with the way in which Superintendent Rogers and his officers worked on the case.

### No Defence Offered.

Contrary to expectations, the defence offered no evidence when the case resumed this morning, Mr. Brackin explaining that under the circumstances and the refusal of his Lordship to exclude the confession of Respa, which he believed to have been obtained by unfair methods, he did not deem it necessary to permit the prisoner to go on the witness stand.

### Taken to Prison.

No time was lost in removing Respa and Leffler, who was convicted some time ago and who gave Crown testimony, to the Penitentiary, very much to the delight of Sheriff D'Aignon and Governor Harmon of the jail, both of whom spent many restless nights while the prisoners were incarcerated there. The prisoners were in a special car in charge of Superintendent Rogers, Provincial Inspectors Boyd and Miller and five constables.

Respa, when seen by The Globe on the way to Toronto, declared that he had nothing to say respecting his complicity in the crime with Albert Kaltschmidt, a Detroit manufacturer, who, according to the police, was the ringleader in the plot.

To the Canadian Immigration officer at Windsor Respa stated that he was born in Hamburg, Germany, thirty-three years ago. He came to the United States in 1904 and 8 years later, along with his father, who is at present in Detroit, and Charles Karl Schmidt, a brother-in-law, who is in the detention camp at Kingston, jointly obtained a homestead at Edmonton. They remained on it for six months and then returned to the States. Respa is a stone-cutter.