

CHARLESTONIANNARRATES

ARRESTED AS SPY WHILE IN BERLIN.

Robertson Paul Marched Through Streets Escorted by the Military.

During his stay in Berlin just after the outbreak of hostilities Mr. John Robertson Paul, of Charleston, who is a Rhodes scholar at Oxford, was arrested on suspicion of being a spy and marched through the streets of the German capital with military escort. Mr. Paul convinced the military and police authorities that he was an American, taking kodak pictures for his pleasure, and was released after considerable time. Mr. Paul has written of this and other incidents falling under his personal observation in the following very interesting article:

By this time it is probable that American publications will have been adequately supplied with descriptions of the characteristic street and traveling scenes occurring just after the outbreak of hostilities in the important centres of the countries now engaged in the general European war. I shall accordingly not detain you by repetitions of them, but will refer as briefly as I may to my own impressions of the state of the public feeling of Germany and to one experience of my own in that country.

Germans Realize the Cost.

It has been argued that the mass of German people were decidedly averse to war, and that they were only forced into it by the leaders of the military class. It is undoubtedly true that the German nation was deeply depressed by the realization that they were facing the most terrible war of history. But has there ever been a country whose people welcomed the coming of the infinite tragedies inevitably attendant upon war? Every German family realized only too truly just how fatally doomed was the happiness of their individual household. War in the concrete could mean little but sorrow and financial ruin to the great body of the German population. This much is true. But rightly or wrongly—for it would be futile to attempt to review here the causes which nations advance to justify their participation in this war—Germany is convinced of the greatness of her cause.

The general public of Berlin believes in all sincerity that the present war, was as far as the Fatherland was concerned, absolutely inevitable. The kaiser, it was stated, had done all in his power to prevent it by yielding to the "peace" telegrams of the Czar, and prohibiting Germany from any active movement looking to war up to the very moment when it became evident from Russia's mobilizing her army against the German frontier that the Russian bear, after approaching her very threshold beneath the white mantle of pretended peace had at last thrown off its ill-becoming disguise and was even now scowling its war threats at her doors.

France, it was known, has ever since the last war been longing for the opportunity to fight her unforgotten foe of 1870. The two near-neighbors of Austria and Germany, France and Russia, were her deadly enemies and were now attempting to crush the fine old Teutonic race and civilization between the hordes of the Slavs and the efficient military machine of the Celts. Servia, which Germany rightfully or wrongfully regarded as the mere catspaw and pretext for Russia, and Montenegro, were of course, allied to the Slav combination, and Belgium, caught between the mighty forces of the opposing powers, declared war in self-defence against the first aggressor, which happened to be Germany. Then, too, England and Japan unexpectedly joined the forces of her enemies, producing as heterogeneous a racial combination as was ever known to history—all, felt Germany, for a share of the spoils.

Whatever we may think of the causes—and it is a sad commentary upon Europe's fondness or even respect for the truth, that every nation proves not only to man but also to the Almighty that there is on denying that its cause is just and praiseworthy and its enemies false and execrable—still, surely, the task before the German was of such appalling magnitude as to stir his Teutonic soul to its depths and to arouse an enthusiasm that was in a fine sense heroic. Every German family might be heart-broken, but every German individual was burning with eagerness to do his or her share for their country's sake.

System Works Faultlessly.

The manner, with which this system of patriotism was practically applied was simply perfect. Ambassador Gerard, speaking in the town hall of Berlin, said that he had been amazed by the spectacle of a great nation sending her armies forth to war against seven powers with less

confusion than had attended the issuing of passports in his own offices. But, again, an adequate description cannot be attempted in these few words. Suffice it to say that everywhere there was large bodies of troops being moved without the slightest delay or confusion; that everywhere that I traveled I passed long trains of supplies of artillery, of Red Cross apparatus, in short of every requirement of a great army—all in absolute order down to the most minute detail; and that every man, woman or child in the country seemed intent on the intelligent performance of some service for the benefit of the common cause.

It cannot leave the subject of the state of the public feeling of Germany without expressing a heartfelt appreciation of the kindness and courtesy universally extended to Americans who happened to be in that country at the outbreak of the war. I am aware that the construction put upon it in England is that it was for "political purposes only." Having found the English a genuinely fair-minded nation in sport and having a real respect for their spirit of fair play in athletics, I must admit that I cannot believe them sincere in this criticism of their enemy. Surely both England and Germany clearly understand that America's position is one of absolute neutrality and that we are not quite such fools as to rush blindly into Europe's carnage and grope with her history over tragedy's prejudice merely because a few of us have been kindly treated. "But," say the English, "though the Germans didn't actually expect an alliance, they at least were striving to gain your friendship." Granting that they were, why are we ever considerate of other nations? First, because of sincere human kindness, and second, because any self-respecting people desire that others should have a proper regard for them—which I must confess I consider a perfectly legitimate motive.

Refrinded by Countess.

This latter was the probable reason for the government propaganda in favor of Americans in Germany, but the generous attentions which we received at the hands of the people everywhere must be attributed to even more disinterested feelings. Upon arrival in Berlin an Austrian widow guessing our dilemma, directed us to a delightful stopping place, where everything possible was done for us. A German countess to whom she introduced us was more than kind to us, even to the point of writing our letters in German (as was required by the government.) An interesting Russian case came under our notice here.

A professor of the University of Petersburg and his son were stopping at the same place. The father was left entirely unmolested, but the son was taken off to be detained for a time as a prisoner, as he was just of fighting age. The father was greatly distressed, as the son was quite unwell and, in fact, had come to Berlin for treatment. As soon as the countess learned the facts, she at once wrote a letter to the authorities in his behalf. The son was examined by German army physicians. The statements of the professor were found to be quite true and his boy was at once set at liberty.

From German Viewpoint.

These are mere incidents of which I might relate any number. In view of the fact that one never reads anything but unkindness, nay even brutality, of Germany in the newspapers of her enemies, and that I never saw or experienced anything but the reverse in Germany, for the sake of our sense of cosmopolitan fair play, perhaps this reference may not be out of place. I must, of course, limit the applications of these remarks so as not to include the actual fighting zone, as of this I am not qualified to speak.

I candidly do not believe that the thinking part of the English people give credence to the extravagances which flood their press. In any event, at a time when seven powers were denouncing Germany as "the enemy of the human race," when she was desperately busy with the terrific task before her; when, in short, one might naturally expect a display of only the roughest and less delicate feelings, during all this time, the great heart of her friendly people could still beat in sympathy with the Americans who were so unfortunate as to be caught there in time of war. Germany, on the eve of inexpressible suffering, could find time to lament our momentary inconvenience and in the midst of infinite labor to provide for our every want. This, I consider an honor to a nation's character and an attitude which I could not conscientiously pass by without reference.

Under Suspicion.

The one personal experience of my own which may be of some passing interest is the occasion of my arrest under suspicion as a spy in Berlin. I was walking from Potsdam Platz, always a scene of military movements from the first moment of the war, out through the Tiegarten, at

about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. As usual, I had my kodak with me, for there were of course, some interesting views to be gotten. Suddenly I was accosted by two soldiers and thereupon ensued a prolonged linguistic effort, conducted without singular enlightenment of either party principally by means of the hands and shoulders. A German officer came up, and stating that he could speak any of the European languages, kindly offered to arrange matters for me. Whereupon I explained that I was "just a little more at home in English than the other languages," and promptly replied that I was averse to accepting his help.

When, however, it appeared that I had no passports, for the embassy had been so crowded during the morning that I had decided to return for them in the late afternoon, he at once informed me that all he could offer me was sympathy, for naturally he had no power to remove any one without passports from the military authorities. I was then marched between soldiers to a guard room at Brandenburger Thor, which is in the heart of the German capital. Here ensued an absurd and lengthy conversation on which the only definite result was that they succeeded in understanding my name and address when I wrote it for them. This was followed by another street parade, again between a military guard, to a prison some

(Continued on page 7, column 2.)



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BURY THE TOMAHAWK.

"Marse Henry" Calls at the White House.

Washington, October 18.—Henry Waterson, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, called on President Wilson at the white house today, following the example set two weeks ago by George Harvey, former editor of Harper's Weekly. The meetings mark the end of the controversy between the president and the two editors which arose during Mr. Wilson's pre-nomination campaign for the presidency.

After Mr. Waterson's visit it became known that the Manhattan club controversy was discussed by Mr. Waterson and William F. McCombs, chairman of the Democratic national committee, in Paris months ago, when the editor expressed regret for harsh words he used in statements about Mr. Wilson. Since then he has exchanged letters with the president, in which both expressed regret over the controversy.

The president's Mexican and foreign policies were touched on briefly at today's conference, and Mr. Wilson explained the objects he is seeking to achieve.

LODGE MEETING.

Bamberg, Lodge, No. 38, Knights of Pythias meets first and fourth Monday nights at 7:30 p. m. Visiting brethren cordially invited.

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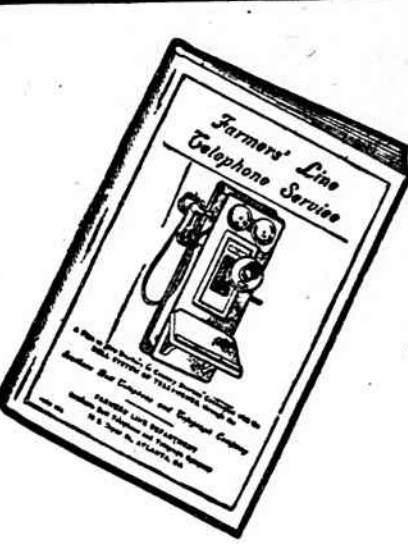
FRIENDS, SCHEMERS, FUN AND EXTRAVAGANCE WILL GET IT UNLESS YOU PUT IT INTO THE BANK

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