

Teuton Bandit's Arrest Ends a Daring Career

Max Hoelz Establishes Communist Regime With Series of Bold Rascalities.

TOOK PART IN RED REVOLT

Brigand Boasted of Touching Off World Uprising From Seat of Government—Seized Mansions and Burned Them Before Quitting.

Berlin.—The arrest of Max Hoelz several days ago in Bohemia, closes one of the most romantic chapters in the history of revolutionary Germany. It is also one of the most significant chapters, for it shows how communist doctrines work out practically when held by a criminal of exceedingly erratic mind; how far some of the German working classes will go in making common cause with a common robber, if he but throw the charmed halo of socialism about his head, and how weak socialist government is in dealing with such a situation.

Hoelz suddenly appeared upon the German firmament at the time of the Kapp adventure and he was soon registered by newspapers as a star of the first magnitude. But he had a previous history. Last year he had played a prominent part in Spartacist turbulence in the Vogtland, as the southern part of Saxony is called. When the military moved into the region and the situation grew serious Hoelz decamped in good time leaving his followers in the lurch. These latter were captured and were in prison since then, awaiting trial toward the end of March. Hoelz was meanwhile living in concealment somewhere in northern Germany.

But his opportunity to rehabilitate himself arrived when Kapp held sway in Berlin. At Plauen, chief town of the Vogtland—known for its manufacture of lace and embroideries—the Reichswehr, or national troops, showed signs of wavering and going over to Kapp. This caused trouble with the working population and a clash seemed inevitable. But the military was withdrawn. That was Hoelz's opportunity. He was apparently holding himself in readiness just behind the scenes, for the next night he appeared in Plauen.

Frees Followers in Prison.

Gathering together a handful of his former followers—they still had faith in him, for the man has a dangerous gift of voluble and fiery rhetoric—he stormed the prison the next morning at dawn and liberated his 18 accomplices of last year. Then they betook themselves to the prosecuting attorney, hauled him out of bed and demanded the documents in the cases against these liberated prisoners. He was not able at once to produce them, and so they carried him off as hostage to Falkenstein, a town about 15 miles to the east. Here Hoelz seized the old castle of Baron Trutzler von Falkenstein, dismissed the baron, and made it his seat of government for the following four weeks. By the afternoon the prosecuting attorney had thought better of the matter and had the documents produced. Hoelz burned them in his presence and then discharged his hostage.

Then Hoelz inaugurated his communist regime with a series of high-handed rascalities. He dismissed city officials or drove them out of town. He levied upon manufacturers and requisitioned their automobiles. Mounted in these he and his chosen band made incursions upon neighboring towns, making people think that the far-off period of robber bar-

ons had returned. He organized his little army and had his little skirmishes with such opposition as presented itself in his way. With 120 of his band on automobile trucks he went to Markneukirchen—famous for the manufacture of violins—disarmed the home guards after a little fight, and then liberated the Spartacist prisoners in jail there. Incidentally he carried off 100,000 marks, "as pledge that the arms would be delivered up," he said.

Made Threats of Slaughter.

Wherever he went he breathed out threatenings of slaughter. His proclamations teemed with expressions like "will be shot."

Hoelz delighted in strong talk, in giving himself the airs of a bloody bandit; but he was not half so bad as his talk. In fact, there was a quality of mercy in his rascalities. Once he had the Munich-Berlin express train held up and searched by his band, but they harmed nobody and apparently took nobody's purse, though one report said so. They were evidently looking for somebody, and when they heard that several passengers who looked suspicious had got off and gone to the leading hotel they went there and searched it.

One of the guests was correspondent of a Leipzig newspaper. They arrested him and took him off to Falkenstein because they found on him a notebook containing the substance of a news report which he had telephoned to his paper. In the castle at Falkenstein he found two young university men who had been held in captivity for more than a week, waiting for some kind friend to pay the 20,000 marks ransom demanded for them by Hoelz.

Warned Tender Hearts.

As Hoelz grew in fame and renown as an outlaw he found that he was touching many tender female hearts with his deeds of courage. He was flooded with letters from women that annoyed his virtuous soul. Finally, he had printed in heavy type in the Falkenstein Anzeiger a notice warning "all unmarried and married women persons, upon pain of heavy fines and the publication of their names, against tempting him with love letters and less obvious allurements." He was a married man, the notice concluded, and he "energetically forbade" this indiscriminate love-making.

While Hoelz was amazing all Germany and the world with the boldness of his robberies and impressments, the Saxon government was equally the cause of amazement through its supineness. Herr Gradnauer, the socialist minister-president of Saxony, at first did nothing whatever against Hoelz, and later explained that he had hoped the workmen would themselves take measures to restore order or, failing in that, would come and ask the government for troops. As late as April 3, about two weeks after Hoelz began his "reign," Gradnauer was still calling upon the various "action committees" that had been formed in the larger towns of the Vogtland to "see to it that the unconstitutional state of things instituted by the communist Hoelz in the Vogtland be remedied as speedily as possible." If this were not done in the very next days, this proclamation went on, the government "would be compelled in the general interests of the state to restore legal conditions with all the power at its disposal."

Workmen Ordered to Arm.

At the same time news from Chemnitz, which lies near the Vogtland, was to the effect that Gradnauer had promised no troops should be sent for the present, and was depending upon the Chemnitz executive committee (of the socialist organizations) to negotiate

with the "action committees" in the Vogtland to put a speedy end to Hoelz's doings. This statement was made at a general meeting of the shop councils of Chemnitz, whereupon a resolution was adopted calling for arming the workmen and declaring that a general strike would be proclaimed at the first attempt of the government to send troops through Chemnitz. The executive committee had promised several days before this that it would settle the Vogtland troubles by peaceable means, and Minister Gradnauer was still promising mild treatment for Hoelz and his gang.

This attitude of organized labor at Chemnitz corresponded to the attitude of the more extreme socialists elsewhere. The independent socialists either excused or openly encouraged Hoelz. Their leading organ at Dresden declared that the workmen would resist an armed intervention by every possible means, and "the responsibility would fall with full weight upon the government." And the Freiheit, the national organ of that party, saw nothing worse in Hoelz's doings than a breach of party discipline. He was "acting contrary to the interests of the revolutionary proletariat." "Proletarian campaigns," this organ continued, "require closed ranks at the battle front, obedience to general orders; and all dancing out of one's turn means weakening and hurting the revolutionary struggle."

Decide to Fight Bandit.

Finally about three weeks after Hoelz had been in possession at Falkenstein, Gradnauer decided with extreme reluctance, that he would have to ask the Berlin government to send the Reichswehr against the marauder. His hopes that the workmen in the Vogtland would come and say: "The thing can't be done without the Reichswehr," had not been realized. An attempt was made by Plauen workmen, indeed, to shake Holz, but without success at first. The action committee there called four big meetings; at which a resolution against him was to be proposed; but Hoelz himself boldly appeared at the meetings, and by means of his usual fiery harangues defeated the resolutions.

As the troops began to move, however, the laboring people began to assert themselves. At Chemnitz, the decision of the shop councils to call a general strike in support of Hoelz, was nullified by a large majority on a general vote of the entire laboring population; and about the same time, a conference of the communists at Chemnitz voted to expel him from their party. On the other hand, about the time when the troops were drawing their net around Vogtland a conference of socialists at Gera, attended by delegates from many Thuringian towns, voted unanimously to demand that the troops be recalled, otherwise to declare a general strike for all Germany.

Hoped to Make Escape.

But the troops gradually gathered around the Vogtland, coming in with many apologies and explanations on the part of the Dresden government and the general. Airplanes were sent in advance to scatter handbills designed gently to soothe the fears of the workmen. Moreover, a civil commissioner was sent along with the troops to restrain their thirst to kill on sight Hoelz and his band.

Hoelz scented the danger from afar, but he made good use of the few days of grace still left him. He did not remotely dream of making a stand against the troops. When they were still several days' march from Falkenstein he shifted his headquarters over to the little town of Kilgenthal, which lies immediately on the Bohemian frontier.

On the last day of his stay at Kilgenthal he made hay in two ways. He sent a detachment of his forces once more into Plauen to raise money by going into the leading restaurants and emptying the pockets not only of guests, but even of waiters. Then at Kilgenthal he summoned fifteen of the leading manufacturers to a conference at the town hall, demanded of them 1,000,000 marks before nightfall, and locked them up as hostages till it should be produced. Later he decided to let them go out and make their arrangements to obtain the money. At the appointed hour they returned and counted out the money for him on the big center table.

Burns Mansions Before Quitting.

Before quitting Falkenstein Hoelz had set fire to the mansions of five leading manufacturers, after he had been mulcting them for several weeks to meet the expenses of his "army." He also ordered the detachment that went to Plauen to rob the restaurants, that they also burn several fine villas there, but this was apparently not done; the valiant band contenting themselves instead with pillaging several homes.

As the troops closed in on the scene of war they began to make captures of Hoelz's Red guards, all stuffed with stolen money. There was a sort of skirmish somewhere, in which Hoelz was engaged until things grew too hot for him. The official report records the fact that his automobile was captured, containing his hat; but that Hoelz himself escaped, "ostensibly in woman's clothing."

He succeeded in some way in getting across the frontier, which was probably not very hard to do, as it is a wooded, semi-mountainous region. Several days later the Czechs arrested him at Marlenbad; and now he is to be brought back to Germany for trial. If a military court tries him it is not doubtful what his fate will be; but more probably he will be brought before a civil tribunal. In that event he may get five, perhaps even ten years in the penitentiary.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

After a lengthy deliberation on ten plans for the new Nebraska capitol to be built at Lincoln, a jury decided that Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue of New York will prepare designs for the structure, which are to come within the \$5,000,000 appropriated by the legislature for the building. The plans submitted by Mr. Goodhue probably will not be the plans, from which the capitol will be built. The idea of the commission and jury was to discover which architect appeared to best carry out the ideas they wanted covering beauty and ability to get the space needed.

Fred Boselman, 50-year-old farmer, who has lived near Stoddard for many years, is in jail at Hebron, charged with causing the death of his daughter on June 7, the eve of her marriage to W. J. Butzke, 22 years old, teacher in the Lutheran school at Chester. Boselman is said to have objected to the match because the young man's income was not sufficiently large to suit him.

Losses sustained by a heavy hail storm in Harlan, Custer and Phelps counties filed with the hail insurance department of the state run all the way from 10 to 100 per cent. In Harlan county the loss was as high as 80 per cent, while in Custer it ran from 10 to 100 per cent. In Phelps the reports showed from 10 to 50 per cent losses.

Reduced rates on live stock from South Omaha to points in the south and east have been extended until July 31, according to announcement by the Burlington and Northwestern railroads. One-third of the full rate is charged under reduced schedules.

Census figures give Omaha a population of 191,601, a gain of 67,505, or 54.4 per cent since 1910. Omaha is now the 34th city in size in the United States having advanced from 41st position since the last census was taken. In 1890 Omaha had a population of 1,882.

Extensive improvements are to be made at the Lutheran Seminary at Seward, according to a decision reached at the annual convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of the United States at Detroit, Mich.

From Omaha to Pine Valley, Pa., without a stop was a new American record made by the Larsen all-metal airplane which left Omaha for New York on June 28. The distance was made in less than eleven hours.

On June 25th the whole territory surrounding Norfolk was visited by one of the worst rain and electric storms of the season, washing out small bridges and crippling telephone service.

The most spectacular fire Lincoln has had in the past ten years occurred the other night when the entire plant of the Western Glass and Paint company burned, resulting in a quarter million dollar loss.

Burlington railroad officials estimated that 3,700 cars of wheat of the 1919 crop are still in elevators on the McCook division. At \$2.00 a bushel this wheat is worth \$10,000,000.

Work is to begin at once on the new state school of irrigation buildings at Scottsbluff. The institution, which will open this fall, will accommodate 300 pupils.

Hebron and vicinity had the heaviest rain of the season the other night, five inches of moisture falling within three hours' time. Some damage was done.

Seepages of oil in three wells at Home City, Kan., about 30 miles south of Beatrice, has occasioned considerable excitement along the state line.

Prospects are good for Gage county producing one of the best wheat and oats crops in the history of the county.

David Goertzen, former Aurora farmer, was sentenced to a year in the federal penitentiary for draft evasion.

The Nebraska State Federation of Labor will hold its annual convention at Hastings August 3.

Contract has been let for the paving of a number of Auburn's principal streets.

Gasoline at Omaha has advanced to a new high level, 28 1/4 and 31 1/2 cents a gallon.

Thomas P. Kennard, one of the founders of the city of Lincoln, former state treasurer and member of the commission which located the state capital, died at his home at Lincoln at the advanced age of 92 years.

The city of New Platte, having won a suit involving a question of liability for the death of Chief of Police Sheldon C. McCumber and Policeman George Rogers, the widows of the two officers have filed an appeal in the state supreme court. They allege the city is liable in the sum of \$5,250, for each officer killed.

Two new buildings to cost about \$180,000 are included in the expansion plans for Midland College at Fremont this year.

Buffalo county farmers report that the alfalfa crop this year is the best ever harvested in the district. Other crops are likewise excellent, they say.

A modification of the temporary restraining order against the Skinner Packing company of Omaha, permitting the concern to operate the plant and complete contracts for machinery used for the plant was granted by the state supreme court.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Skinner Packing company at Omaha, held in the metropolis, full approval of the Skinner management was expressed in a resolution which ninety per cent of the stockholders present voted to accept. Stockholders representing \$2,800,000 worth of shares attended the meeting, which was by far the largest meeting of stockholders ever held in Nebraska.

On recommendation of the national guard committee of the War department, Lieut. Col. Amos Thomas of Omaha, Capt. P. R. Halligan of North Platte and Capt. Charles Epperson, Jr., of Clay Center, have been appointed members of the advisory board of the guard department of Nebraska, which has for its work the building up of a national defense.

There are now about 60 men from the state penitentiary at Lincoln working in the three road camps at Table Rock, Seward and Tecumseh, and with the exception of the two who escaped from the Tecumseh camp are making good, according to Secretary Antles of the department of public welfare.

While Omaha ranks thirty-fourth in size among the cities of the country, in bank clearings it ranks fifteenth. During the first five months of 1919, the amount of bank clearings was \$1,159,182,343. During the first five months of the present year they were advanced to \$1,524,152,749.

According to the report of the 1,008 state banks of Nebraska as compiled by the state banking bureau, compared with the report of last February, demand deposits have fallen off about 6 per cent, or \$10,109,623, while time deposits have increased \$1,720,413, or 1.3 per cent.

Geo. W. Edwards, convict at the state penitentiary from Custer county, serving a fifteen year sentence, was paroled as the result of his aiding in the capture of two prisoners who made their escape from the prison just recently.

Suit in the name of Attorney General Davis has been filed in the supreme court at Lincoln to test the school reorganizing law of 1919. Litigation in several counties has grown out of disputes over the interpretation of the law.

J. H. Norsworthy of Gothenburg, said to be one of the oldest and largest shippers in the state, shipped six loads of cattle, 87 head, to South Omaha, which averaged 1,307 pounds and topped the market at \$16.25.

Scottsbluff has the honor of completing the organization of the first national guard company formed since the war. Mustering in ceremonies took place June 28. The company is assured a military band.

Ernest Lass of Emerson was on the South Omaha market the other day with a load of mixed Shorthorns from his ranch that averaged 1,613 pounds and topped the market for the day at \$16.25.

A membership campaign for hundreds of new members of the B. P. O. Elks of Omaha and the erection of a new Elk home to cost \$1,000,000 is being planned by Omaha Elks.

For the third time this year the Missouri river at Plattsmouth went out of its banks, flooding the built-up lowland east of the business section, doing a great deal of damage.

In spite of the fact that high water has delayed work on the state-aid bridge south of Shelton since early spring, the structure is rapidly nearing completion.

Miss Mortensen of Sweetwater was killed and three others injured when a Burlington freight train struck an automobile in which they were riding near Mason City.

At a meeting of farmers at Arnold the other day plans were laid for the organization of a farmers union and the establishment of a co-operative store.

The new hotels being erected at Ogallala and Kearney by the North American Hotel company are nearly completed.

A cloudburst at Plainview inundated the east part of town, resulting in great damage to small buildings and gardens.

Work has been resumed on the new hotel at Scottsbluff being built by the North American Hotel company.

Fire destroyed the Peters Milling company alfalfa shed at Elm Creek, gutting a loss of about \$10,000.

A site has been chosen for the new farmers' union elevator at Stapleton. Sale of stock is well under way.

Work has been started on the state-aid highway between Hebron and Belvidere.

High cost of building material and few demands for homes have resulted in the abandonment of plans for building homes and selling them to workers on easy terms by the Commercial club at Fremont.

Growing out of the drowning of the five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Burch Harmon of Nemaha county, May 22, 1920, Frank Harmon, administrator of the estate of Loyal B. Harmon, deceased, filed a suit in the United States court at Lincoln against Nemaha county asking for \$20,000 damages.

McCook has a population of 4,303, census figures show, an increase of 538 or 14.3 per cent since 1910.

Chadron has a population of 4,412, according to the census report from Washington. Chadron's population ten years ago was 2,681, making the gain 64.2 per cent.

According to a letter received by Frank Harrison at Lincoln, Senator H. Johnson is planning to publicly brand delegates pledged to support him at the Chicago convention who broke faith and deserted to the ranks of other candidates.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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LESSON FOR JULY 11

JONATHAN BEFRIENDS DAVID.

LESSON TEXT—1 Sam. 20. GOLDEN TEXT—A friend loveth at all times; and a brother is born for adversity.—Prov. 17:17.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—1 Sam. 18: 1-6, 17-30; 19:1-24.

PRIMARY TOPIC—A Story of Two Friends.

JUNIOR TOPIC—David and His Friend.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Friendships That Are Worth While.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Friendship: What It Is and What It Does.

The friendship between Jonathan and David is peculiar in that it occurred between two men of rival worldly interests. Jonathan was the crown prince, the heir to the throne. David was the heir according to divine choice and arrangement. Jonathan knew this and magnanimously waived his natural personal rights to the one whom he knew that God had chosen.

Following the interview of Saul and David after the victory over Goliath, Jonathan's soul was knit with that of David. He loved him as his own soul. While there was mutual love, yet this pleasing trait stands out more in Jonathan than in David, because it meant great loss to him—the loss of the throne, but immense gain to David—the acquisition of the throne to which he had no natural right. The genuine friendship was shown:

I. By Giving to David His Court Robe and Equipment (18:4).

This belonged to Jonathan as the crown prince. Following the love-covenant between them (18:3) Jonathan stripped himself of these and gave them to David. This act was virtual abdication in favor of David. "Love seeketh not her own" (1 Cor. 13:5).

II. By Defending David Against the Frenzy of Saul (1 Sam. 19:1-6).

According to oriental custom, the women met David and his soldiers as they were returning from their victory over the Philistines, and with singing and dancing they ascribed more praise to David than to Saul. This stirred up the murderous envy of Saul and moved him to three attempts to kill David. In his third attempt Jonathan defended David before his father and evoked from him the oath that David should not be slain (19:6). Thus he exposed himself to the anger of his infuriated father, for David's sake.

When one is willing to lay down his life for another he proves that his friendship is real. "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

III. By Revealing to David Saul's Murderous Intent (1 Sam. 20:30-40).

The beginning of a new moon was celebrated by sacrifices and feasting, at which all the members of the family were expected to be present (v. 5). David's excuse for absence was to go home to attend the yearly sacrifice of the entire family. This annual feast was more important than the monthly feast.

Matters were now so serious that they renewed the covenant between themselves. In its renewal the terms were projected beyond the life of Jonathan (vv. 14, 15). Saul's anger was now so fierce that for Jonathan to be found in company with David was a dangerous thing, so he cleverly plans to give David a sign by which he could know Saul's purpose. We prove our friendship by warning those who are exposed to danger. David's heart responded to Jonathan's love by pledging himself to deal faithfully with Jonathan and his seed forever. Later history proves that this was faithfully carried out (II Sam. 9:7, 8).

Some Observations on Friendship:

1. Friendships should be made while the parties are young—while the hearts are capable of being knit together.

2. Real friends are few; therefore be careful in the formation of the ties of friendship. Friends should be selected. We should love everybody, but we can have but few friends.

3. There should be some variations in the temperaments in those who would be friends. Friendships should be formed for the purpose of mutually helping each other. Both parties, however, must possess real merit.

4. Both parties must be God-fearing. David and Jonathan both recognized their obligation to the Lord and that his help was essential to the welfare of both. Without a deep religious life there can be no friendship. There are times when one party must absolutely renounce his interests in behalf of the other. Genuine love is the basis of all friendship.

Good Impulses. Few good impulses live long unless they are put to work.

The Glory of Life. To do the things that can't be done is the glory of life.

Greatest Losses. The greatest losses are the losses we never observe.

Being Rich or Poor. We are as rich or as poor as our minds make us.

Character. Character is a growth from the soil of purpose.

Cattle Show in Ruins of Ypres



Scene during the cattle show held in the market square of war-wrecked Ypres, Belgium. Visitors from all parts of Belgium attended this show. It was organized by the provincial council of western Flanders in honor of the visit of the duke of Portland and members of the allied agricultural relief committee.