

OMAHA MONEY WENT TO HUN SECRET WORK

Thousands of Dollars Intended for War Charities Diverted by Bernstorff Into Propaganda Fund.

The exhibit by The Bee of German Red Cross money collected in Knox county, but used for German propaganda, has raised the question how far German-ancestry citizens of Omaha and vicinity were likewise duped.

Thousands of dollars were sent from here in the first years of the war to Count Johan von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States at the time, for the German Red Cross, prisoners of war and widows' and orphans' funds, but so far as can be ascertained not a single acknowledgment of receipt ever came from the other side of the ocean.

A Bee representative has found in Omaha cancelled checks showing that Von Bernstorff, instead of transmitting the sums of money raised here for the German and Austrian relief societies, had endorsed them over to Dernburg, head of the German propaganda work in America, or deposited them to his own account.

Big Sums Collected.

It is conservatively estimated that sums approximating between \$60,000 and \$100,000 were collected in Nebraska and transmitted to Count Johan von Bernstorff, for use in German Red Cross work, previous to the declaration of war on Germany by the United States.

There was no central organization in this state for the collection and transmission of these funds. The money was sent by individuals, churches, ladies' aid societies, local lodges and organizations such as the Sons of Herman, the Deutscher Landwehr und Kreigerbund verein, the Plattdeutscherverein, and the German Alliance.

Food, clothing and hospital supplies, gathered by women and lodges and designated for the relief of certain communities in Germany and Austria, were sent to those points under direction of Count von Bernstorff, and the receipt of the same was acknowledged by the officials of

Nebraska Boy Awarded Medals For Service in Coast Artillery

Ernest Francoeur, 19-year-old boy of Chappell, Neb., has been awarded two medals for service in the coast artillery. He is now stationed at San Francisco.

The young soldier is of French descent. He was a member of Pershing's French interpreting party, but his hearing was not clear enough for overseas service and he was transferred to the coast artillery.

His mother, 60 years old, is a true French patriot and she declares she is proud to have her son do his part in the war.

the communities benefited by such supplies.

No Receipts for Money.

Money that was directed for the relief of designated communities was received by the German ambassador, and acknowledged by him, with a promise that he would see that it was used as directed, but no instance has yet been found of communities acknowledging the receipt of such funds.

Cases are reported of wealthy Germans residing at various points in Nebraska, who sent to Von Bernstorff, personally, checks for sums ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 for Red Cross work.

Val Peter of Omaha estimate, the amount sent for this purpose through the German Alliance, would approximate \$22,000. At first the German Alliance of Nebraska recommended that the funds so contributed be equally divided between the German and Austrian Red Cross and later reduced the amount to the Austrians to one-third.

Money Route Is Changed.

At first most of this money was sent direct to Von Bernstorff, and later it was transmitted to John Scharitz, treasurer of the national organization, and who lives at Baltimore.

Mrs. Pauline Getschman, 1608 South Tenth street, active in German Red Cross work in the days of neutrality, says large sums were transmitted by various churches and women's organizations of German and Austrian origin, direct to Von Bernstorff until the time this country was on the verge of diplomatic break with Germany, when he directed all future funds be sent to E. Hecker, of the German Red Cross delegates, 1123 Broadway, New York City.

Koenig's Local Activities.

Ernest Koenig, chairman of the Plattdeutscherverein of Omaha, sent \$2,500 to Von Bernstorff from his organization, and all of the drafts, which were cashed at the Kuhn Loeb banking house, in New York City, were endorsed by Von Bernstorff to Dr. Dernburg, who had charge of the work of disseminating German propaganda, promoting sabotage and endeavoring to bring about civil war conditions in this country.

Koenig also acted as treasurer for the Kreigerbund und Landwehr verein of Omaha, and agent for the order-Nemaha county, in this state, and for the lodge at Dunlap, Ia.

For this organization he sent at



Ernest Francoeur

various times, dating from May 1, 1915, to August 15, 1915, checks for \$300, \$600 and \$3,500. The check for \$3,500 and the one for \$300 was endorsed by Von Bernstorff to the order of Dr. Dernburg, and the one for \$600 evidently was cashed for Von Bernstorff for himself, as it bore no other indorsement.

Contributors in Nebraska.

There are hundreds of Sons of Herman, Kreigerbund und Landwehrverein, Plattdeutschervereins and other German lodges and societies in addition to women and church organization and individuals in Nebraska who contributed heavily to the German Red Cross during 1915.

Until they received orders to send their funds to Scharitz or Hecker, all of the monies were sent to Von Bernstorff personally. Besides the money for Red Cross relief, funds also were collected for the relief of German war prisoners in Siberia and for the relief of widows and orphans in Silesia, and for the relief of widows and orphans in Germany and Austria. These contributions were directed to Von Bernstorff, who acknowledged their receipt and replied that he would see they would go where directed.

Cancelled checks that have been returned through the disbursing banks show they were cashed, in most instances on the endorsement of Von Bernstorff to the order of Dr. Dernburg.

Clocks in Russia Are Run Up Two Hours to Save Fuel

Moscow, June 3.—Clocks throughout Russia have been advanced two hours in order to save light and fuel.

BUY YOUR COAL THIS WEEK, PLEASE OF GOVERNMENT

Patriotic Omahans Urged to Order Fuel Now in Order to Avert Famine in Fall.

This is "Early Ordering Week," during which the United States fuel administration urges all patriots to place orders for their next winter's coal supply with their dealers. The object is to get this coal in the bins of as many homes as possible, so that the mines may work all summer and the railroads may haul the coal now and thus be relieved of much of this enormous work next winter.

"Many people have already ordered their coal," said Arthur Palmer, executive secretary to Fuel Administrator John L. Kennedy. "But a far greater number must order if the fuel problem for next winter is to be solved. After the order is placed the people are asked to wait with patience until delivery is made. The dealers will do this as fast as possible.

Transportation Is Problem.

"Our fuel problem is chiefly one of transportation. Our railroads are staggering under war burdens. With their limited facilities they must rush coal at top speed from mines to consumers—day and night, summer and winter—to keep the country warm and the wheels of industry turning. To help them the government has established a zone system whereby coal must be brought from the nearest mines with the shortest haul.

"Nebraska formerly got almost 1,000,000 tons of soft coal annually from east of the Mississippi, most of it from Illinois, and more than 130,000 tons of hard coal from Pennsylvania. For this we must substitute coal from mines nearer home—from Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and Wyoming.

"We are at war! The war must come first. We must endure inconvenience, discomfort, and even hardship, with courage and patience, if thus to endure will help us win. Our most popular coals were taken from us only after a long and careful study of facts, figures and conditions by

NUXATED UXTATE IRON

Nuxated Iron increases strength of debilitated, nervous, run-down people in two weeks' time, in many instances. It has been used and endorsed by such men as Hon. Richard Ballou, Secretary of the Treasury and Ex-Governor of Iowa; Former United States Senator Richard Ballou, Hon. J. C. McPherson at present Mayor of the U. S. Army General John L. Clinch (retired); the drummer boy of which who was sergeant in the U. S. Army when only 12 years of age; also United States Judge G. W. Robinson of the Court of Claims at Washington and others. Ask your dealer or druggist about it.

expert coal and railroad men. These men tell us it is our duty to deny ourselves coal to which we are accustomed.

"To avoid a famine we must rush into Nebraska coal that will burn, and we must not be too particular. If we can't get what we want we must take what we can get. Let us order from our regular dealers some kind of coal without delay. The east charges the west with apathy and indifference as to the threatened fuel famine and we must show them once more that Nebraska is the school house of the nation."

Meeker Loses Test Suit Against Treasurer Endres

A suit for a temporary injunction to restrain City and County Treasurer Endres from paying the salary of Mrs. Rose Ohaus, superintendent of the Board of Public Welfare, was denied Lewis A. Meeker, plaintiff, by District Judge Troup Monday afternoon. The case was brought to test the constitutionality of the law passed by the legislature on April 16, 1915, creating the welfare board in Omaha. The judge upheld the law, but commented in his findings that the wording of the law was "not commendable, to say the least."

Aged Man Seriously Hurt In Fall Down Flight of Stairs

Peter Barrett, aged 75, fell down a flight of stairs at his home, 2114 Chicago street, early Monday morning, sustaining injuries which may result in his death. The injured man was taken to the Lord Lister hospital.

Preacher Would Quit, But Congregation Won't Accept Resignation

Rev. F. W. Leavitt, pastor of Plymouth Congregational church, is anxious to go into war work. Some months ago Rev. Mr. Leavitt tendered his resignation for the purpose of going into Young Men's Christian association work "over there."

Sunday morning, at the Plymouth Congregational church, Rev. Mr. Leavitt announced a congregational meeting immediately following the regular services. At the meeting he presented his resignation, effective September 1. Like the former resignation, this one was rejected. What the outcome is going to be is a matter of speculation. However, Rev. Mr. Leavitt says that he is determined to get into the Christian work among the soldiers.

Woman Crushed to Death When Freight Train Starts

Crushed by the sudden start of a freight train beneath which she had crawled at Third and William streets, late Saturday afternoon, Mrs. Mary Gottstein, 1218 South Second street, died within an hour at St. Catherine's hospital. Both legs were broken, one at the ankle, the other at the hip.

Mrs. Gottstein, who lives alone in her home, was in the habit of crossing the tracks to get water from a spring near the river.

The funeral will be held Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock from Janda's undertaking establishment to St. Wenceslaus' church, Fourteenth and Pine streets. Mrs. Gottstein is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Fred Kahl, 2768 Burt street, and by a sister, Mrs. J. E. Kubobec of California.

Help Hoover save wheat—Eat Cream of Rye

delicious in a dozen ways

You will enjoy it served in many ways. Recipes on the package—your grocer has it.

Minneapolis Cereal Co., Inc. Minneapolis, Minn.

"Well, Well, How Do You Do!!"

"YOU'RE THE BEST FRIEND A THIRSTY MAN EVER HAD"

YOU'LL SAY SO, TOO, WHEN YOU DRINK

VIVO

NON-INTOXICATING

The Winning Drink

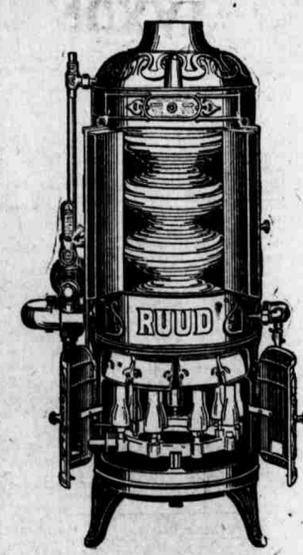
Made by MILLER BREWING CO. MILWAUKEE

H. J. HUGHES CO., OMAHA. PHONE DOUGLAS 1334.

OUR OFFER DURING WATER HEATER WEEK

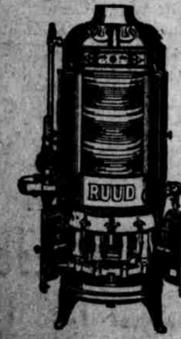
We will install a Ruud Automatic Water Heater in your home and divide the cost into eleven payments. A 5 per cent discount for cash

A Ruud in your home means instant hot water service for the rest of your life. A turn of the faucet in the bath room, kitchen, laundry—wherever you are—brings hot water instantly without trouble or thought. And this wonderful service costs no more to run than the unsatisfactory system you are putting up with now.



Automatic Hot Water Service is not expensive. On the contrary, it is the most economical way of supplying ever ready hot water to your home. The Ruud is simply an automatic attachment connecting your gas and water pipes. Turn a faucet and the flow of water automatically ignites gas burners in the heater. Turn the faucet off and the gas goes off. Simple, isn't it?

Take advantage of our offer and install a Ruud This Week. You will never feel the expense. Make us prove it. Come in at once. See the Ruud, learn all about its wonderful convenience, economy and unfailing service.



Free demonstration all this week by special representatives from the Ruud factory.

OMAHA GAS COMPANY

Phone Douglas 605

1509 Howard Street

