

**STRANGE OATH  
UNEARTHED**

**German American Uses It To Secure Protection in London.**

London, Nov. 6.—The American embassy here has examined many curious claims to American citizenship during the war but none more unusual than a moly oath of allegiance dated 1863. It was presented by Charles Engels, now a resident of London but at the time of the taking of the oath a prisoner of war in the hands of the federal forces in Alabama.

Engels went to America from Germany as a boy of eighteen in 1856 and settled in Brooklyn, N. Y. At the outbreak of the Civil war he was in Alabama and joined the confederate army there. One of the first union forces penetrating that state captured Engels had promised to parole him

if he would take the oath of allegiance to the United States. He did so and returned to New York, subsequently coming to London where he has been keeping a small shop in Bloomsbury. At the outbreak of the war he claimed American citizenship, but the authorities compelled him to register as an alien enemy. Engels made no protest until the recent attacks on German shops cause him to fear the same fate for his establishment and he has now asked the embassy to decide whether or not he is entitled to the protection of American citizenship. The embassy has been unable to find any precedent for Engels' case and has submitted the question to the State Department at Washington for a ruling.

The oath reads as follows: "United States of America, State of Alabama, County of Jackson, I, Charles Engels, of the County of Kings and State of New York, do solemnly swear that I will bear allegiance to the United States, and support and sustain the Constitution and laws thereof; that I will maintain the national sovereignty paramount to that of all State, County, or Confederate powers; that I will discounten-

ance, discourage and forever oppose secession, rebellion and disintegration of the Federal Union; that I disclaim and denounce all faith and fellowship with the so-called Confederate States and Confederate armies, and pledge my honor, my property and my life to the sacred performance of this, my solemn oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States of America.

(Signed) CH. ENGELS.

"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of August, 1863.

(Signed) WM. J. W. I. S.,  
"Lt. Col. & P. M."

Engels is firmly convinced that such a binding oath made him a citizen of the United States and is confident that the State Department will sustain his contention.

**ENGLAND SEES  
HAND OF FOE**

**Believes Foundations of German Factories Meant for Siege Guns.**

London, Nov. 5.—London has been greatly excited by the report that a German owned music-printing plant in Willesden, a prominent manufacturing suburb of London, has an immense building whose heavy concrete foundations, floors and roof as well adapted to the use of siege guns.

Twenty of the German employees of the firm were taken into custody and military experts are studying the building carefully. Meanwhile the excited public is fully convinced that the plant was designed to act as a German base for attack upon London proper. The building unquestionably occupies a strategic position. It stands high with a clear range to Crystal Palace. Willesden Junction, where two main lines entering London center, is but a short distance from the plant.

However, the English architects who designed the building and supervised its construction eight years ago say it is similar to many other printing plants and has no heavier foundations and floors than are required where heavy machinery is to be installed.

The building is about two hundred feet square on the outside and is constructed about a court sixty feet thick. The English manager of the concern says this unusually thick foundation was laid as the firm expected to add additional stories to the plant when business expanded. A concrete roof covers most of the building.

Discovery by the allies that Germany has prepared concrete bases for its howitzers surreptitiously in many places in Belgium and France has all English men suspicious of possible German preparations in England.

Uninterrupted View.

In discussing the Willesden factory, the Sunday Times says: "In a situation which commands an almost uninterrupted view of that great tract of London which lies between Willesden and the Crystal Palace is discovered a building whose roof, floor and foundations are constructed of exceptionally thick concrete and might apparently be employed as the emplacement of a heavy gun, in fact, one of those 17-inch howitzers for which such careful arrangements were found to have been made around Antwerp and Namur. We are very far from suggesting that the premises at Willesden were deliberately arranged. Considering the German workmen, it is at least probable that in the event of an attack upon London the attention of the German's commanders would have been called to that convenient concrete floor, even if they had not known of it before their arrival.

Carefully Prepared.

"It is highly probable that there do exist such places in London and in the neighborhood of our great fortress positions which have been carefully prepared for siege guns, and the chief value, to our late authorities to search for them.

"The suspicion that many wireless equipments are operating in London was justified by the discovery of such a plant in the home of a German professor. As wireless apparatus has been operated for so short a distance as from London to the European coast without an outside tower the discovery of illicit wireless stations is very difficult. The Times advocates that the War Office issue a statement stipulating that persons found sheltering such apparatus will be treated as spies and handed over to military power."

**COAST WRESTLER IS  
AFTER JOE NOVACK**

Fred Kellogg, the speedy welterweight wrestler of Seattle who has cleaned up everything in his division along the Pacific coast, has issued a challenge to Joe Novack, who is making his headquarters in this city. Kellogg asks for an early date, as his time is limited in this section. Novack has wired his acceptance of the challenge, but the definite date of the bout has not been announced.

Novack has been training for two weeks for his return match with John Eliaffis, the Grek Demon, which was scheduled for Friday night at Glen Ullin. The Demon evidently lost his desire for the engagement, however, and left Glen Ullin Friday after all arrangements had been made and the match advertised. Therefore, Novack is in the pink of condition for the match with Kellogg, which is bound to be a stiff bout. Novack figures that if he can get Kellogg and then win over or man in St. Paul, he can get his match with Miller for the world's welterweight championship.

**RAVAGES MADE  
BY TROOPS**

**Russian Army Leaves Dreary Waste in Its Wake.**

London, Nov. 5.—A correspondent returned from the scene of the operations about the fortress of Ossovetz and the watering place of Draskienki reports that the ravages made by waves of troops, both Russian and German across this region, chiefly inhabited by Jews in the rural districts, have for a distance of one hundred miles swept the country bare of any signs of crops.

Trenches, pits, dugouts, embankments and mounds are everywhere. Scattered over the fields are remains of property of every description. Barely can a sown be found, practically all being the sign of shrapnel and other shell fire. Houses and huts are in various states of ruin and the fields littered with the wreck of transport trains, wagons, harness and remnants of barricades, and the country side reminds one of a Kansas district ravages by a cyclone.

No Uncommon Sight.

It is no uncommon sight to see a man owning a hundred acres of fertile soil begging for food. Kovno, which in normal times has a population of 30,000 now shelters 60,000, 70 per cent of whom are Jews and 90 per cent of these are old people and children. The position of these Jews is all the more pitiful for, under the Russian law, all of the governments east and north of the governments of Vilna and Warsaw are closed to them notwithstanding the fact that 300,000 of their brethren are fighting in the Russian army, twenty-six of whom up to the present date have been decorated with the St. George's cross, the equivalent of the Victoria cross in the English services.

**CANADIANS CARRY  
ENTRENCHING TOOL**

Basingstoke, England, Nov. 6.—Canadian troops arriving at Salisbury Plain carry an entrenching tool that is novel to the Englishman. It is capable of being used as a shield and is slung across their shoulder in a leather case. The tool is a spade, weighing about four pounds, and consequently can be carried at all times. The spade has an oval hole in the center of it through which a gun barrel can be thrust. The tool thus serves both as a rifle rest and a shield to the soldier in the trenches.

All the spades have been subjected to heavy fire and the metal in them is practically bullet-proof. At a distance of 200 yards heavy ammunition cracks the shields and does not penetrate them.

**EARL ROBERTS IS  
RAISING BIG FUND**

Earl Roberts is raising a fund which will be devoted exclusively to the use of the Indian forces in the present war. Already he has received \$250,000 and within two weeks he hopes to have enough money to equip a special hospital in the south of England for the care of the sick and wounded Indian soldiers.

The fund will also be used to provide warm clothing especially suited to the Indian troops. Rations of the English army are wholly unlike the customary diet of the Indians and special dishes will be provided for them out of the fund. Indians are especially fond of sugar, spices and all sorts of sweets.

Princess Mary and her advisers are making special preparations to send the Indian Christmas gifts which will especially appeal to them. It is likely the gifts will take the form of boxes of candies and other sweet meats particularly relished by the men from the Far East.

**JACK JOHNSON WILL  
FIGHT JESS WILLARD**

Chicago, Nov. 6.—The next battle for the world's heavyweight championship will take place within the gates of the race track at Juarez, Mexico. The principals will be Jack Johnson, the negro who hold the title, and Jess Willard, the Kansas cowboy, who for a long time has been considered the best of the "white hopes." The date has not been set but the bout will take place within the next three months, it is said.

The contest will be staged by a syndicate of New York sporting men who have guaranteed Johnson the \$30,000 which he demands, win, lose, or draw. Willard also will be guaranteed a certain amount, but just what he will receive has not been made public. This definite information was brought to Chicago yesterday by a New Yorker who is financially interested in the match.

The principal members of the New York syndicate are Harry Frazee, a theatrical promoter; James Butler, owner of the Empire City race track of Yonkers, N. Y., and the Laurel race track of Laurel, Md.; Jack Curley, former manager of George Hackenschmidt, the Russian wrestler, and Harry Pollok, manager of Freddie Welsh, world's lightweight champion.

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**SEMMLER ELECTION  
UNIQUE IN N. DAKOTA**

By decision of the people, Carl Semmler, Mercer county auditor, was re-elected Tuesday on the Democratic ticket, thus in a way reversing the decision of the district and the supreme court.

The election of Semmler is something unique in North Dakota elections. At the primaries the count of Republican votes showed that he had gained the nomination 428 to 425 over Chris Fuerst. The latter contested the election. On the recount each candidate was found to have secured 425.

Fuerst took the case into district court and won the decision and nomination before Judge Nichols. Semmler then took an appeal to the supreme court and lost.

However, at the primaries Semmler received several Democratic votes as a candidate for that party. There was a sufficient number to give him the Democratic nomination. When defeated in supreme court Semmler

took the Democratic nomination and ran against Fuerst, beating him by 60 votes.

Miss Rodena, Nelson, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Nelson, of near Kenmare, had a serious runaway. The horse she was driving became unmanageable, shied to the side of the road, with the result that the buggy struck a telephone pole, and Miss Nelson was dragged to the ground. She was quite severely bruised but no permanent or serious injury was sustained.

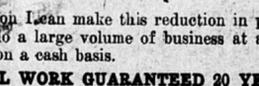
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Because of the excellent weather, which has afforded the farmers an opportunity to continue farm work, they have had little time to gather their corn for an exhibit, and so at the request of a large number, the contest at Kenmare has been postponed until a later date.

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