

AMERICANS RALLY TO FREE VON HORST



Baron Louis von Horst.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—(Special)—Unusual efforts are being put forth to secure the release of Baron Louis von Horst, of California, who has been held a prisoner since September 2 on the charge of being an alien enemy. Among those who are bringing pressure to bear on the English government in von Horst's behalf are Ambassador Page, Governor Johnson, of California, and such influential Americans abroad as Otto H. Kahn and Franklin K. Lane.

Registered in England as a German subject since the beginning of the war Baron von Horst was arrested charged with circulating a manifesto advising the Irish not to enlist in the British army. He made strenuous denial of the charge at the time, but the government regarded him as sufficiently dangerous to order his confinement in a detention camp, and later he was sent aboard the old liner Prince Edward, now in use as a prison ship.

Baron von Horst is wealthy. With his brother, E. Clement von Horst, an American citizen, he has extensive hop interests in California. He is the husband of the daughter of D. J. Patullo, of New York. He came to America when he was only five years old and there is no doubt that his father became a naturalized citizen of the United States, and through him von Horst became a full-fledged citizen also. It is said that the baron once ran for a political office in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor. (Dec. 17, 1914). AMERICANS RALLY TO FREE VON HORST (colleague of Lillian Scott Troy). The Fort Wayne News (Indiana). Reproduced for educational purposes only. Fair Use relied upon. Source: <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/106882192/>]

But a few years ago he became prominent in musical and social affairs in Coburg, Germany, and it ended by his receiving the title of baron from the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, who figured as the patron of an operative school which von Horst established in Gotha. The baron concluded that his acceptance of this title vitiated his American citizenship and so at the beginning of war duly registered himself in London as a German subject.

Additional to the charge of attempting to dissuade the Irish from enlisting in the war, the British authorities had no kindly remembrance of the baron as a strong sympathizer with the militant suffragettes in their campaigns. Whenever one of them was arrested the baron almost invariably appeared as her bondsman. He instigated a collection of the "torture" instruments used in forcibly feeding militants, with the purpose of exhibiting them in big cities all over the world.

It was recalled also that he was active on the London committee opposing Andrew Carnegie and his peace plans in the avowed belief that Mr. Carnegie was attempting to bring about a union between Great Britain and the United States.

Since his arrest Baron von Horst and his friends have put forward the declaration that his acceptance of the title of baron from the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha does not destroy his American citizenship, and his brother, Governor Johnson, Otto Kahn and the others interested have proposed to the British government that if the baron is released he will proceed straightway from England to California under an ironclad agreement to remain there until the war shall have ended.

Baron Louis von Horst.

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter_Hines_Page]

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiram_Johnson]

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otto_Hermann_Kahn]

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Registered in England as a German subject since the beginning of the war Baron von Horst was arrested charged with circulating a manifesto advising the Irish not to enlist in the British army. He made strenuous denial of the charge at the time, but the government regarded him as sufficiently dangerous to order his confinement in a detention camp, and later he was sent aboard the old liner Prince Edward [the refitted RMS Cairo], now in use as a prison ship

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMT_Royal_Edward]

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Additional to the charge of attempting to dissuade the Irish from enlisting in the war, the British authorities had no kindly remembrance of the baron as a strong sympathizer with the militant suffragettes in their campaigns [including journalist American Lillian Scott Troy]. Whenever one of them was arrested the baron almost invariably appeared as her bondsman. He instigated a collection of the "torture" instruments used in forcibly feeding militants, with the purpose of exhibiting them in big cities all over the world.

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It was recalled also that he was active on the London committee opposing Andrew Carnegie and his peace plans in the avowed belief that Mr. Carnegie was attempting to bring about a union between Great Britain and the United States [a campaign championed by investigative American journalist Lillian Scott Troy.]

Since his arrest Baron von Horst and his friends have put forward the declaration that his acceptance of the title of baron from the Duke of Coburg-Gotha does not destroy his American citizenship, and his brother, Governor Johnson. Otto Kahn and others interested have proposed to the British government that if the baron is released he will proceed straightway from England to California under an ironclad agreement to remain until the war shall have ended.

Baron Louis von Horst.



Baron Louis von Horst
(1865-1947), ca. 1900. b. Dec. 16, 1865, Tuttingen, Wurtemberg, Germany; d. Sep. 06, 1947 (Age 81), buried at Am Glockenturm 5, Coburg, Oberfranken, BY, 96450, Germany; Son of Ernst Paul HORST and Maria Barbara Barbara Horst Husband of Carita von Horst and Irmgard von Horst (Source: [Geni](#)).

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GERMAN PRISONERS SHIFTED TO SHIPS

THOSE ON BOARD VESSELS ARE
WELL TAKEN CARE OF, BUT
LACK ACTION.

SOUTH END, Eng., Dec. 12 (Mail).
German prisoners who were interned
at the race track at Newbury, con-
cerning whom so many complaints
were made in German papers, have
been moved to other places, many of
them being on three English prison
ships which are docked here in com-
mand of Colonel de Cordes, a retired
officer, who had long experience in
charge of prison camps in the South
African war.

Baron Louis Anton von Horst,
whose citizenship has been much in
question since the opening of the war,
is among the prominent men held on
the Prince Edward, a ship formerly
in service between Bristol and Can-
adian ports, which has been convert-
ed into a prison ship, together with
the liners Saxonia and Ivernia. Baron
von Horst is well known in California,
where he has lived much of his life
and has many relatives. His attor-
neys say he is really an American,
as his father was naturalized in the
United States, and consequently the
present Baron, who was then under
age, automatically became an Ameri-
can citizen.

However, Baron von Horst accepted
a baronetcy from the Duchy of Saxe-
Coburg and believed he had surren-
dered his American citizenship in do-
ing so. At least he registered in
London, at the opening of the war, as
an alien enemy. His case, under rep-
resentations from the American Em-
bassy, is under consideration.

German prisoners are delighted with
the transfer to the roomy passenger
ships, where they can keep warm and
dry, in contrast to the unfavorable
conditions under which they lived in
canvas and stables at the Newbury
race course.

Each of the three prison ships here
has about 800 Germans on board.
Sanitary conditions are excellent on
the ships, and it is not unlikely that
more vessels will be added to the
prison fleet, as this means of caring
for Germans is specially satisfactory.

The prisoners on the ship eat from
china and live much as passengers on
an ordinary sea voyage, except that
their belongings are carefully search-
ed and military discipline is enforced.

At Queen's Ferry, in Wales, unused
iron works have been taken over for
the use of prisoners, and several hun-
dred men are quartered in the build-
ing, which affords an admirable shel-
ter. The establishment overlooks the
sea, and is surrounded by several
acres of land inclosed in a high board
fence on three sides. The prisoners
have a large ground for football, base-
ball and other sports.

Lack of employment is the great
problem in all the prison camps. Bad
weather makes sports impossible, and
the men are unable to amuse them-
selves satisfactorily in their cramped
quarters. In many of the camps they
have learned to knit, and busy them-
selves making socks and neck scarfs.

[Editor. (Dec. 23, 1914). GERMAN PRISONERS SHIFTED TO SHIPS (incl. the Prince Edward, re. Baron Louis Von Horst detention), THOSE ON BOARD VESELS ARE WELL TAKEN CARE OF, BUT LACK ACTION. The Danville Morning News (Pennsylvania). Reproduced for educational purposes only. Fair Use relied upon. Source: <https://www.newspapers.com/image/98074974/>]

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GERMAN PRINSONERS SHIFTED TO SHIPS

THOSE ON BOARD VESSELS ARE WELL TAKEN CARE OF, BUT LACK ACTION.

SOUTH END, Eng., Dec. 12 [1914] (Mall). German prisoners who were interned at the race track at Newbury, concerning whom so many complaints were made in German papers, have been moved to other places, many of them being on three English prison ships which are docked here in command of Colonel de Cordes, a retired officer, who had long experience in charge of prison camps in the South African war.

[**Lt. Col. E.L. de Cordes**, 3rd Bn. W. Rid. R. (Mila.), West Riding Regiment (Duke of Wellington)]

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMT_Royal_Edward] [Ultimately employed by **Field Marshal Frederick Sleigh Roberts**, **1st Earl Roberts**; and **Viscount Alfred Milner**, co-founders of the British **Pilgrims Society** (1902)]

[<https://www.essexregiment.co.uk/powgships.html>]

[<https://www.angloboerwar.com/other-information/89-prisoner-of-war-camps/3251-transportation-of-boer-pows-from-south-africa>]

[https://www.angloboerwar.com/images/pdf/staff_03.pdf]

[[Kuitenbrouwer, Vincent \(2012\)](#). 'All will be well!': Pro-Boer propaganda, June 1900-June 1902. In *War of Words: Dutch Pro-Boer Propaganda and the South African War (1899-1902)* (pp. 215–252). Amsterdam University Press.

3rd Battalion, the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment), Major and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel E. L. de Cordes resigns his Commission, with permission to retain his rank and to wear the prescribed uniform on retirement. Dated 29th August, 1903.

[[The London Gazette, Infantry, Aug. 28, 1903, p. 5418](#) ("3rd Battalion, the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment), Major and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel E.L. de Cordes resigns his Commission, with permission to retain his rank and to wear the prescribed uniform on retirement. Dated 29th August, 1903.")]

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However. .Baron von Hirst accepted a baronetcy from the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and believed he had surrendered his American citizenship in doing so. At least he registered in London, at the opening of the war, as an alien enemy. His case, under representations from the American Embassy, is under consideration.

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