Guide to the
MS-196: “Meine Fahrten 1925-1938” Scrapbook
[My Trips 1925-1938]

Jesse Siegel ’16, Smith Project Intern
July 2016
**MS – 196: “Meine Fahrten” Scrapbook**

*(Title page, 36 pages)*

Inclusive Dates: October 1925—April 1938  
Bulk Dates: 1927, 1929-1932

*Processed by: Jesse Siegel ’16, Smith Project Intern  
July 15, 2016*

**Provenance**

Purchased from Between the Covers Company, 2014.

**Biographical Note**

Possibly a group of three brothers—G. Leiber, V. Erich Leiber, and R. Leiber—participated in the German youth movement during the 1920s and 1930s. The probable maker of the photo album, Erich Leiber, was probably born before 1915 in northwestern Germany, most likely in the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. His early experiences with the youth movement appear to have been in conjunction with school outings and Christian Union for Young Men (CVJM) in Austria. He also travelled to Sweden in 1928, but most of his travels are concentrated in northwestern Germany. Later in 1931 he became an active member in a conservative organization, possibly the Deutsche Pfadfinderschaft St. Georg, participating in outings to nationalistic locations such as the Hermann Monument in the Teutoburg Forest and to the Naval Academy at Mürwik in Kiel. In 1933 Erich Leiber joined the SA and became a youth leader or liaison for a Hitler Youth unit while still maintaining a connection to a group called Team Yorck, a probable extension of prior youth movement associates. After 1935 Erich’s travels seem reduced to a small group of male friends, ending with an Easter trip along the Rhine River in 1938.

**Historical Note**

Following Germany’s defeat in World War I, the youth movement splintered into a broad range of groups, with confessional groups like Catholic and Protestant organizations being the single largest youth groups, while numerous other organizations existed across the political spectrum. Mostly drawing from the middle class, these organizations primarily promoted youth leadership and outdoor activities. One grouping, the Bündische Youth, influenced German society through changes in education standards and cultural practices. These groups, however, had very little influence on the politics of the period. Between 1932 and 1933, paramilitary and conservative groups joined the Hitler Youth en masse and the Nazi bureaucracy

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2 Ibid., 59.
eventually took over administration of all youth groups. Some of the pre-war youth movement members withdrew from public life into outdoors activities following World War I. The cruiser Köln, pictured on page 22, was built in 1929, just before Leiber saw the ship on his Great Trip of 1930.

**Scope and Content Notes**
This scrapbook includes two sketches, 37 pages with originally 177 photographs (13 missing), three free photographs, and 3 magazine clippings. Below is a list of the places visited by Leiber in the course of the album and the images he included in the album, including their page numbers. Some of the images, particularly from pages 24-30, appear to be chronologically out of order.

**Places Visited**
---(2), Sauerland (2), Eifel (3), Galtür, Austria (4-10); Eifel (10-11); Sweden (11-12); Edersee (13), the Weser River (14), Detmold (14), Möhnesee (15), Hermann Monument (15), Schloss Waldeck (16), Möhnesee (16); Rhine River (17); Rheydt (17); Bermen Harbor (18), Helgoland (18-19), Sylt Island (19), Wallsbüll (20), Mürwik Naval Academy (20), Schloss Glücksburg (21)?, the North Sea (21), Kiel (21), Kiel Harbor (22), Hamburg Harbor (23); Ennepetalsperre (24), Glörtalsperre (24), Kahler Asten (24), Waldeck (25), Edersee (25), Siegerland (25), Feusburg (26-27), the Rhein River (27), Bachrach (28-29), Kaub (29), Laacher See (29), Wermelskirchen (30), Aufderhöhe (30), Glörtalsperre (30), Eifel (31), Mayen (32), Laacher See (32), Freiburg (32), Köln (33), Altenahr (33), Hohe Acht (33), Rolandsbogen (34); Heidelberg (35); Pfaffenberg (35); Lingestalsperre (36); Kohleralm (36); Rhine River (36-37)?

**Sketches**
Two boys looking at a map, Team Yorck (1):
The poem reads in the original German:

Lasst nicht den Tag verdämmern  
Die Rühe frommet den anderen  
Wir wollen Kraft erwandern  
Und deutsches Eisern hämmern.  

Do not doze away the day  
The quiet is of use to the others.  
We want to discover strength on foot

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4 Stachura, *op. cit.*, 44.  
5 Transcribed by Professor Michael A. Ritterson, July 7, 2016
And beat out German iron.⁶

Boys playing outside a tent in the dunes, possibly Helgoland, 1930 (1):
The writing at the bottom reads in the original German:

Schön ist das Zigeneurleben.⁷

The gypsy life is beautiful.⁸

Two boys on a hike through the countryside (3), Tent on Sylt Island (19)

Inserted Material
A cutout of the Austrian Alps, handwritten note of Galtür (1); a tag reading “Ferienlager in Tschaffein, (Österreich). Sommer 1927.”, translated as “Holiday camp in Tschaffein (Austria), Summer 1927” (4); the coat of arms of Tirol (4); an Edelweiss blossom (6); four small photographs: a large white building at a distance, same building from back, same building from front (11); a cutout of Schloss Glücksburg (21), cut out of red voided cross (30).

Pictures
(All captions in bold are the original captions provided by Leiber; marking of phot. Leiber indicate Leiber takes credit for photograph; captions in quotations are printed on the photographs themselves; all other captions and translations are provided by Jesse Siegel)


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⁶ Translated by Jesse Siegel, July 8, 2016.
⁸ Translated by Jesse Siegel, July 8, 2016.

**Subjects**

Youth Movements—Germany—History—20th Century

National Socialism—Germany—History—20th Century

**Series Description**

This collection is one Series, consisting of album with sketches and inserted material within.