

WAR STORY IS TOLD

Americans Are Paid High Compliment by Germans

STRIKE IS MOSTLY IMAGINARY

American Writer Says the Relations Between the United States and Germany Are Not as Bad as Pictured

Although I was in Germany during the tensest week yet experienced in diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany, I could see no real basis for the exaggerated hysteria and the individual American—mark.

In contrast to the feeling of disappointment and bitterness toward the American people as a whole, said a German writer, a newspaper correspondent.

"We have been disillusioned about Americans," they often say to me. "We idealized you and expected you to act differently in this crisis. When I bring up the floor and German wars as examples of Germany's industry in supplying belatedly with arms, they throw up their hands and illogically exclaim:

"It is not the same thing. Look at the magnitude of this war. Look at its destructive ability. It cannot be compared with any other. And, anyway, we expected differently of you."

They have ceased to hope for any sign of "fairness" from the Americans, and their only expectancy is that of British methods and armaments will lead the Americans into a kinder feeling toward Germany.

"We do not think America will

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ever favor us from any spirit of fair play, of trying to see both sides of the question; but we fancy that when they have suffered about all they will stand from the English they'll be more friendly toward us."

They are naturally intensely interested in the coming Presidential nominations, and show a grasp of our political situation which is surprising, considering the few American papers in Germany and the garbled versions that the English papers give.

Many of them agree absolutely with the Munsterberg theory, that the German-American vote will decide the coming election, and rather than re-elect Wilson, the hypenotes would not hesitate even at Roosevelt, in spite of his exaggerated hysteria and highly colored remarks about the Germans.

It will doubtless be a surprise to many Americans to know that S. S. McClure, now editor of the New York Evening Mail, and Judge Ben Lindsey were working continually in Germany to test the temper and feeling of the Germans for Roosevelt, particularly to find out how government and private circles would treat him if he should go to Germany.

"He doesn't know the real state of affairs," they say. "Let him come and see them, and he has enough intellectual frankness and candor to come out in the open and admit he is wrong and take back his former statements."

I talked to various members of the foreign office and marine department, as well as German officers, all of whom were cognizant of the scheme and disapproved of it, not from personal or German reasons, but purely from the point of view of what it would mean to Roosevelt.

"He can't afford to come over here," one official said to me. "Suppose he were to come and be honestly convinced that he had been wrong about Germany. Could he say this before election without laying himself open to the seemingly well-founded imputation that he was only trying to obtain the votes of those friendly to Germany? Such a course would lose him not only his old friends but could gain him no new ones."

"No man running for President in America today, with the feeling running as high as it is, can afford to make any move or any statement favoring either party. It becomes a sign of suspicion to his friends and of weakness to his enemies."

"Besides, we should be in an awkward position. Colonel Roosevelt has many influential friends here. They might attempt to get him to six or seven fronts at once, which is what he would expect if he came. However, we would only accord him the same treatment as were given to a private individual. This is war time, and we can't lay aside war to treat a man as if he were a king, particularly if this man slandered us most unmercifully."

"If Colonel Roosevelt wishes to come I believe there would be no military objection to it. Probably in the circles in which he would move he would note no change of attitude, and the papers might be silent regarding the feelings of the masses. But he can't afford to try it, anyway, not until the nominations are over."

A former Washington diplomat was also asking me about the Presidential possibilities and said, after making a minute inquiry into Hughes' chances:

"What a pity it is that a man like Wilson, with nothing to gain from the Presidency, couldn't be content serving his four years to the best advantage of America, without any thought of re-election. Why can't he be content with his term as well governed as he knows how to make it. Instead of turning the last year and a half of it into a political campaign with an attempt to conciliate both parties?"

Of course, the real trouble is in the shortness of his term. You should have six years and re-election impossible. As it now stands the first year is given over to acquiring the routine, making appointments, and general changes and upheavals; the second only is of real use to the country, and the third and fourth are devoted to campaigning and ideas of re-election."

The possibilities of America as a peacemaker are "ganz ausgemacht," as they say. Any country guilty of such partiality, not only in words but in deeds, cannot be called in as a fair-minded arbitrator.

The look of course, with a certain pleasure at the transfer of the money market from London to New York, but they are seriously troubled at the strides American commerce is making while theirs is at a standstill.

"We can make things cheaper, better and more quickly than you can," they say, "so that once we get into our stride again after the war you will lose your artificially increased trade in Europe, where our delivery is quicker and cheaper. As for China—you think you are going to work up a big trade there—but wait—we are working, too."

WOUNDED ARE FOUND

Villa Has Reached Babicora in Guerrero Region

MAY HIDE IN THE MOUNTAINS

In His Hurry to Reach the Mexican Interior Villa Abandoned the Wounded Members of His Party

EL PASO, March 21.—Villa has reached Babicora, near the lake of that name, in the Guerrero region, after having abandoned 30 of his wounded at El Valle, according to a telegram received here today by General Gaviira at Juarez from Colonel Nieto Macias, the commander at Juarez.

This places Villa a little beyond Las Cruces, where the Carranza officials reported him yesterday.

Villa fled to avoid conflict with the Carranza troops under Colonel Cano. Among the 30 wounded, who had been shot in the Columbus raid, and carried along in wagons, only to be abandoned at El Valle, was said to be the Villista leader, Pablo Lopez. Lopez is the leader whose death was reported as a positive fact at the Columbus raid. Later reports cast some doubt upon his death and indicated that another chief carrying his papers might have been the real victim.

Lopez, in these later reports was said to be badly wounded. The telegram said that Lopez was in a bad way, having been shot through the abdomen and both legs, which were broken.

The Villista chief, Cervantes, is reported with several bandits in Las Cruces.

General Bertani, commanding the Carranza forces at Casas Grandes, came to Juarez today to talk over the military situation with his superior, General Gaviira. He said that General Pershing's force was divided, with part near Casas Grandes and a part near Galeana, some distance southwest of Casas Grandes. The Americans encamp in the country, but have permission to go to the towns to buy food, fodder and other obtainable goods. An order to this effect came from War Minister Obregon. No word has yet been received by Gaviira regarding the use of the National Railways for the transport of General Pershing's supplies, and General Gaviira added, no shipments of this kind have yet been made by the trains out of Juarez.

Villa spent last Wednesday and Thursday at El Valle, according to reports at the Juarez headquarters, but fled without giving battle when he saw the troops of Colonel Cano.

from Santa Ana, escaping up a steep canyon from Las Cruces.

"Villa is now in a section difficult for us," said General Gaviira, "and unfavorable for his pursuers. He is now in broken, rocky, pine-clad, mountainous country, full of places of concealment. Only cavalry can operate in it to advantage."

"From the boundary down as far as Pearson the country is flat and sandy, with roads. But south of there horses must be used as transports, instead of wagons and motor cars. There are high ridges and many obstacles. While I have never campaigned in that section, I understand springs and also the pasture is fair, which is to Villa's advantage."

"The people in that section have almost given up the cultivation of the soil, because the country has been so long overrun by bandits, who took everything they wanted. Villa won't find food there."

"I can't say I have every confidence in the situation, for the net drawn by the Americans and Mexican forces is closing up."

Villa's turn to the west was rather a surprise to General Gaviira, who said that General Gutierrez thought he would try to escape eastward—an event General Gutierrez was prepared for.

The town of Juarez spent Sunday in the usual Mexican fashion, with a line of refreshment stands along its main street and orchestras playing in the amusement resorts. In the evening a military band gave a concert in the plaza.

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Trains on the North and South Banks of the Umpqua Saluted Each Other Last Monday

Track has at last been laid to the north bank of the Umpqua River, having reached the south bank at Reedsport some time ago.

This means that practically all the track of the Willamette Pacific has been laid between Eugene and Coos Bay. It will now only be a matter of a short time before trains will be run between the two points and traffic maintained. There is considerable ballasting to be done before this, between the Siuslaw and the Umpqua Rivers, but accommodation trains, such as mixed trains carrying passengers and freight, will be run on schedule time between Reedsport and Coos Bay in a short time.

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