

"HELLO ADOLF"

by J. W. Crawford

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is an imaginative personal correspondence of a staff writer to Adolf Hitler. The latter's reply is satirical also. All references to persons living or dead are purely unintentional. This material is written solely by the author, and is not the policy or in any way connected with the publication.)

Highland Park, Ill.
July 25, 1940

Dear Adolf:

I recently read an old Spanish proverb which I thought rather appropriate at the moment. It goes like this: "French is the language of love; German in the language of the beasts; English is the language of business and Spanish is the language of the Gods..." I think you will agree on all of them with the possible exclusion of your native tongue.

Spreading thousands of pamphlets on Britain was not very original. Do you actually think that the Englishmen would believe facts stated in these little notes? I noticed that you spread the propaganda, not in the metropolitan centers, but in the small boroughs. Maybe the people are more gullible there. Were you by chance fattening them up, psychologically for the sympathy required for your cause? Now, perhaps, some of the English peasants will give your soldiers a snack after landing. Still, it may never occur to you that this non-unique method of propagandizing might infuriate Britons more... and instead of snacks, they'll feed parachutists all the more lead.

A small radio station in a nearby state recently broadcast "an urgent communication" concerning a "peace rally" by German-Americans at Soldiers Field, Chicago, in the near future. When these organizations conduct open meetings, it sounds as if they are on the "up-and-up." But when they have clandestine meetings, such as they did in Chicago last week, it looks pretty fishy, Adolf. Yes, your German radio programs, broadcast in native tongue, are quite a clever method for reaching people of German descent... fifth columnists or not.

The greater portion of German people in this nation are a cultured and fine people. Sad to relate Adolf, the persons just mentioned are not the ones affiliated with bunds and other German-American cliques. When news of the recent broadcast was published, it aroused much criticism by the great majority of readers. It is evident that any propaganda or organizations you maintain over here are more detrimental than uplifting... and it puts the American public more on guard against any such subversive activities. I think you would profit much more if you disbanded these organizations... they just arouse hate for you beside unrest and social disorder here.

Way down in Libya the British armies continue to take tea between battles with Italian forces. It may sound funny, but it signifies a strong characteristic in the English... the ability to be calm in any emergency. It may be a death knell for parachutists in England... the British aren't going to run down the street and yell bloody murder when your troops come. Instead they will undoubtedly quietly sip tea between shots at gray uniforms.

Stealing a line from Romeo: "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet..." could have the following modernized transcription: A Hitler by any other name would smell as bad... Psychologists maintain that when we think about a certain thing, we indirectly gather other connotations and subjects related with the thought. When we hear "Nazi," we automatically think of a mustache, uniform and a frown. Our minds visualize concentration camps, tanks, millions of armed men, thousands of planes and secret police breaking into homes. Yes, there is a definite correlation between thoughts pertaining to the same subject... especially in your case.

Cunning men condemn study, simple men admire it and wise men use it... That little phrase is from Bacon, one of your enemies' great essayists... though long deceased, his thoughts are just as usable now as they were years ago. When you think about that phrase Adolf, it must bring many things to your mind. You didn't get very far in school and therefore it doesn't exactly pertain in your case. The studying you accomplished must have been on the wrong subjects, otherwise you wouldn't have executed many of your drastic deeds. Some say you're a genius... maybe a wise man, in a small sense. Maybe you are cunning and hate to study things out... thus hindering any opportunity to broaden your mind... see how things could be done differently and simply. Maybe you admire studious persons, and

use their minds to accomplish the ends you wish. However, a possible explanation is that your mind is a conglomeration of cunningness, blindness to face the existing facts and wisdom in influencing and dominating fellow men.

Oh well, I suppose I'd better quit blowing off for the present, but I am anxious to see the outcome of the British campaign. Time is fleeting... time, so cartoonists and writers say, is your worst enemy. Take off just a minute and write. Hoping to hear from you, but knowing I can remain in close touch if I listen to certain radio programs, I remain,

AN AMERICAN.

Prasi, den 1. August 1940

Dear American:
In a sense, French is the language of love, but not towards me. Referring to German being the lingo of the beasts... psychologists maintain that some beasts are equally as capable as man... at least they don't do half the idiotic things humans do with their brains. Yes, English is the language of business. Britain has been strangling the world with her underhanded business dealings for centuries. Germany is the only one to threaten this unjust dominance. As for Spanish being the tongue of the Gods... well, ever since the Armada fell, I think they've been praying for something divine to overcome their misfortunes.

I have repeatedly warned my American agents not to whip out propaganda over the airways in too risqué a manner. It amazes me how my bunds and cliques manage to conduct their meetings in such public places as your great Soldiers Field. Well, more power to them. It also astounds me that your country has not passed a law saying that no radio programs can be broadcast in a foreign tongue. Maybe men in Washington don't care about such trivial matters... at any rate, don't remind them of it. For Heaven's sake, please don't try to connect the Vaterland with any German-American organization. It would arouse too much comment and suspicion for comfort.

No doubt the German people in America are cultured and refined... but I think it is unfair not to include the Bund groups. When you write concerning my mental ability, I can only laugh. After all, you probably wonder why I have not pursued peaceful, scientific advancement, such has been characteristic of my people. My only explanation is that I have been forced negatively. My people had to survive. With the terrific force generated by Britain upon me, I couldn't possibly

pursue the higher cultural interests usually reminiscent of Germany. We had to expand first, to gain raw materials and food for the people. After this is all over, you will see Germany enter a golden age which will be surpassed by no other period in German history. Music, science and all the fine arts will be concentrated upon. I did not attend a concrete university with textbooks, but worked hard in the abstract school of experience... with many ideas as to how things should exist in the world.

Yes, I noticed that the British are sipping tea between skirmishes with Il Duce's forces. I failed to derive any humour from the incident, but instead pitied them. It may be the last tea parties they will enjoy. Britons must be consuming great amounts of tea during the present crisis. Sedatives won't help Englishmen when my men land on their shores. My parachutists won't be sitting around while Britons take shots at them from ambush.

Many writers say that if I wait until October, the channel will be impassable. That my bombers, infantry and armored forces couldn't reach the other side of the channel is pure nonsense. Certainly a little fog, rain and sleet aren't going to keep me from the Continent all winter. From the looks of things now, even if I defeated Britain, it wouldn't net me what I wanted. Due to United States "advice" to South American republics, I won't be able to trade with them in any eventuality. Defeating Britain will be as much a liability as an asset. It means that I will be forced to feed millions of more mouths. But, the satisfaction of forcing Britain to submission will be a great reward.

I have no dislike for the famous Herr Bacon, of English literary renown, because his words also apply to my destiny. One of his phrases, *And certain it is that nothing destroys authority so much as the unequal and untimely interchange of power pressed too far... and relaxed too much.* This quotation, though centuries old, still holds good today. Since the Versailles treaty, England has exercised her power unjustly on Germany, slowly strangling her to utter submission with world imperialism. Yet, Britain's main weakness was the relaxation of power over strict, or a partial regimentation of her people. The English, as the French population, have lead a dissolute and unbridled life for nearly a quarter of a century. It could be called another *Emile Zola, Fete at Coqueville*... a continuation of jubilation over allied victory in 1918. But celebrations cannot last infinitely... as

neither can power.

Just as England has tried to snuff me out, I will slowly snuff her out. Why should I retaliate in only a short time, and then finish her quickly? I want them to obtain a taste of their own medicine... know how it is to live on half rations and with none of the luxuries of life, as my people did since the termination of the last war. I will punish them slowly... maybe months... starving them and feeding them bombs and bullets. With their helpless navy standing offshore, supposedly blockading Germany, it will be similar to the punishment inflicted on *Tantalos* in Hades. Yes, Britain still possesses her vast empire, but she will be unable to touch it.

Well, I'll take leave now, happily anticipating the unbearable sufferings England is destined to endure. Until next week, I remain,

ADOLF.

Outline Work of League of Women Voters for Year

The Highland Park League of Women Voters has Mrs. Van G. Kirk as its chairman of Government and its Operation, one of the five major departments into which the work of the league is divided. This week Mrs. Kirk is presenting a resume of the work she supervises.

The Department of Government and its Operation has adopted a program this year which promises to be more interesting and more instructive than ever. This department deals with the actual mechanics of government, which should always be of primary concern to all voters. Last spring Mrs. W. W. Ramsay, the vice-president of the Illinois league, thrilled Highland Park's members with her talk about what actually could and should be done by individuals in party politics and elections. This fall everyone will have the opportunity of learning more about ballots, voting, and election machinery on a day devoted to a Voter's or Citizenship school.

In the meantime it is interesting to compare the league's support program to the planks in the party platforms and the promises of the candidates. The two leading presidential candidates have endorsed the merit system for qualified personnel in government service. This, of course, has been a major support item of the league for years and it is gratifying to all members to see progress being made for it. Both of the candidates for governor of Illinois have not only endorsed the merit system but have given their

support to the municipal manager plan. Other items which are of great importance and which will be discussed in the next few months are administrative organization to promote efficiency and responsibility, elimination of unnecessary governmental units and the development of a coordinated tax system.

These American necessities for good government should not be over-indulged in deference to world affairs. The league urges all members to participate in party politics and home government in order to achieve a greater understanding of our democratic system, and it is willing and anxious to suggest literature or give information for that purpose.

Jack Reppening of Chicago spent the past week at the Walter Page home on Osterman Ave.

Marguerite Moldaner To Sing on WLS Saturday Afternoon

Miss Marguerite Moldaner, popular Highland Park singer who has appeared on my local programs, will be guest singer on radio station WLS Saturday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. Miss Moldaner who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Moldaner of Lincoln place has studied with Vittorio Trevisan and Madame LaCapria in Chicago for the past four years. Her father is co-partner in Moldaner and Humer, furriers of this city.

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