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John Anderson.
Furniture Carpets

ERNEST WENDT IN BERLIN.

An Interesting Letter Describing What He Has Seen in the German Capital.

Berlin, Sept. 23, 1902.

Dear Brother Linn: It is now going on five months since we left Canton, have since traveled a great many miles and visited many places, where I have never been before. We have been posted of our country's happenings through the LEADER and News, which we have received regularly and they are read a great deal more carefully than at home. We always feel very much disappointed if they stay away a day or two over time, and when they come, everyone wants to read them first, and one has to read aloud so we can all hear, and now, as we have promised some of our friends that I would let them hear from us sometime, I thought I would write a few lines and if you will be kind enough to give them place in the LEADER so that all our friends can read I will be very much obliged to you. They have read of our travels over land and sea to this city of Berlin where we are at present, so I will only write of the city and of its people. We really think that this is the finest city we have seen yet as far as cleanliness and healthfulness is concerned, it ranks above all others. The air is as pure as it is on Dakota prairies and it is claimed that it has the best system of sewerage of any city on the continent, and the streets are kept very clean by washing and sweeping, which is almost altogether done at night, and it would not be very healthful for a man to spit tobacco juice on the sidewalks if the police see it done, the strict punishment for this has nearly done away with tobacco chewing, but nearly all men smoke cigars or cigarettes.

The police regulations are very strict, every newcomer has got to be reported within three days by those with whom he stops and you have to give an account of yourself and your whole family. I do not know, but am told that there is no such place as what we call slums, such as are found in cities like Chicago, New York, London and other cities.

This is indeed a military nation. You can hardly ever look out of your window and not see soldiers. Every able bodied man has to serve two years and then attend the maneuvers every spring from five to six weeks for three years more, so he won't get out of practice, and every man is a trained soldier, and you can tell by the straight walk, the short step, and soldierly bearing that they all have had some good training, and the Emperor is in his glory when the Reichstag, (congress) allows him plenty of funds for his army. I saw thirty thousand soldiers on dress parade in honor of Victor Emmanuel of Italy, who was visiting William II for three days. The parade was just outside the city and I think there were fully as many people as soldiers to see them and especially the two monarchs. I saw them both several times, once only a few feet from me, also the Empress with two of the Princes and other high officers at the parade, all on horseback. They always drive and ride fast, some one said that was done because they were always afraid of being shot by some anarchist. Private detectives from Italy were sent here a week before the King came, as they expected some Italian anarchist here but nothing happened. If it is true that they are always in fear of being shot, I don't want their job.

The Emperor is liked very much by his people, they think he is all right and take his advice and copy after him. According to law he is the head of the church and he is quite religious as far as believing in the Lord, and morality and honesty is concerned. He has wedded out nearly all infidel preachers, and all are true believers now which was not the case some years ago. He also discourages drinking to excess—not total abstinence and I am told that less drinking is going on than used to be, so the sorrow of the drink sellers, but as I look at it, and see it, there is plenty of saloons and drinking going on yet.

Emperor William II, wears his moustache combed to both sides and then straight up so, and it is fun to see every man trying to copy after him, every youth with half a dozen hairs under his nose has them parted up straight. I looked out the window one morning and saw a young fellow having a bandage under his nose tied back of his head. I asked what could be the matter with him; they laughed and said that was a moustache trainer, even our son, Dr. Wendt, has put his in training for I have seen him several times putting on something to stiffen and hold it up straight. This proves the old saying true: "So king, so people." That was the case in bible times and so it is yet.

People dress here fully as well as they do in our country, only the ladies don't trail their dresses as they do at home, and in London I have seen ladies with a trail at least two feet long. Clothing is some cheaper than it is with us.

People feel very friendly to America, especially since Prince Henry was so royally entertained there. I read today that he told our generals that are here,

that when his time expires as admiral, he will make us a longer visit in 1904, during the St. Louis exposition. But they are a little jealous because in some things we are ahead of them. An old captain on the Rhine said, after we told him about America, "yes, America is a good land, but there is only one Germany."

While I was talking to tailor the other day, I told him I had not seen an apple, pear or plum nor grape that was worth eating, he said we will soon have fine fruit. I asked him where does it come from and he had to own up to it that it came from America, for this is no fruit country. They raise nice fruit in France, Italy and southern Germany, but have none to send away.

We have had rain nearly every day and grain has been rotting in the field, laying flat and growing again. This is a city of statues. Bismarck has the largest and finest of any and stands at the most conspicuous place in all the city. It seems that people almost worship that man. Before his statue are flowers and wreaths laid there by his admirers. They quote his words that he uttered in a speech—"We Germans fear God but nothing in this world." I have been thinking that if he had to settle with Spain, after we had conquered them, that instead of we paying them twenty million for the Philippine Islands that they would have had to pay us that and loose the Islands besides judging the way he made France pay.

Between showers we are taking in the museums and art galleries. They have a place here that is called Penitencium, where men and women stand in wax figures life size and features as natural as possible. I have looked them all over and find only two Americans. Geo. Washington stands amongst the great men while the other stands with the murderers of whom there are over one hundred. We visited the Palace of William II of Potsdam, with many others, and were taken through the building, except their private rooms, the family was absent on their northern journey. It was built partly by Frederick the Great and partly by the present emperor. It is not so very large but very fine inside, and the finest park that I have ever seen, surrounds it, which is open to everyone that keeps his hands off of things. There are several fine parks in Berlin. The one we generally visit and is nearest to our place is two miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide and it was originally timber land but is now converted into a fine park.

There are many large and fine churches, but I have never seen any filled with worshippers. The service seem to me very cold and formal—more ceremony than spirit. I have been to a different church every Sunday and two Friday evenings and one Saturday morning to the Jewish Synagogue, which they call the temple, a very fine building costing several million marks. The dome of it shines like pure gold when the sun shines, I expect, in imitation of the old temple at Jerusalem. I heard Rabbi Wise preach, he said we Jews know that there is only one God and not a divided God.

Since I was here last, seven years ago, things have changed in some lines greatly. At that time the transportation of people was done by those big buses drawn by horses and now it is done nearly altogether by electric cars, made as I am told, in America. Ten pfennig is the fare, which is two and half cents in our money.

You have probably read about the Crown Prince's love affair. He went to England and met an American young lady there, Gladys Deacon, fell in love at first sight. The girl acted cool at first, but they met again and he popped the question, she accepted and he put the engagement ring on her finger, and all went well until he told his father, that he would give up right and title to the crown if he would only let him marry that girl. It is said the emperor just laughed and said, Oh, not so fast, my son. I had a love affair on my hands when I was your age but had to get over it, and so will you have to. The ring was called back but a very fine bracelet sent in place and so ended the first love affair of Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany. It made a great deal of merriment in this country.

The Boer generals are going to be here next week and I expect as large a crowd will turn out to see them as did King Emanuel. The people have strongly sympathized with the Boers and no good word for England. It seems that England is jealous of Germany's friendship for America and are trying to raise enmity between these two nations.

When President Roosevelt upheld the Monroe doctrine in his speeches, the English papers came out and claimed that was meant for Germany as they were trying to enforce their claims in South America, but the German papers saw right through their scheme and said that it was nothing of the kind, that America was very willing for them to enforce their claims but it acquires land and that meant them as well as it did Germany. I read the president's speeches the next day after he delivered them, they are wired across the ocean. I think he is alright and so do all Americans that are true. We would be the laughing stock of the

world if we should allow a few fellows that have made their millions by robbing the people, to run our country. I hope it will never come to that. Roosevelt is my man, and I hope that I will have a chance to vote for him.

But I must come to a close for fear I weary you and your readers. We are all well and have been ever since we left home—our son, Dr. Wendt, is the only busy man in the crowd. He starts with surgery in the morning and then attends one clinic after another all day. He has only fifteen minutes for dinner. He is first assistant under Professor Alder, and when the professor had his finger out, he had full charge with two assistants. He has been called several mornings out of bed by telephone to prepare and assist in some operation. In a city like this some get hurt every hour, day and night, by the electric cars or some wagon, or fall off of a scaffold and many other ways so that immediate attendance is needed. He says he examines from seventy to eighty sick people every day and comes in contact with most every disease that human flesh is heir to. These extra courses mean hard work and are expensive to, but he thinks it will pay him in time and will surely be a benefit to his future patients, and then he says it is great satisfaction to know that you receive instruction from the highest authorities in the land if not in the world, for there are students here from nearly all nations, mostly from America, France, Russia and many other countries.

But one thing I forgot, the Emperor is holding his maneuvers, and two of our generals and several English are with him to watch and see what they can learn. The Emperor invites criticism and was surprised the other day, when our general who had been in the Philippine Islands and the English general who had been in South Africa, told frankly that his infantry was behind the times, the way they fought in solid columns at the command of the officers. They said that every soldier ought to be intelligent enough to act for himself and protect himself as best he could—think of the surprise, as he thought his army was perfection, but he thanked them for the honest criticism.

I have been to my old home once and no doubt for the last time. I go to the old home every time and look around and this time we have taken a photograph of it. So farewell until we see each other again. We start from here the 21st of October on one of the largest boats of the North German Lloyd.

From Your Friend and Brother,
ERNEST WENDT.

BECOMES NATIONAL ISSUE.

Public Men Think The Coal Strike Will Get Into Politics.

The anthracite coal strike is now a national issue, and that it will soon become one of the political issues is the opinion of the most conservative public men in Washington. Any matter which touches the public so closely cannot be separated from politics. In this instance the coal strike fits in with trusts. As a result of the coal strike, anti-trust legislation will be pushed ahead ten years.

Members of congress realize that the people are very much aroused on the subject of the rise in value of coal. They know that the people will favor action by congress calculated to prevent a recurrence of, if not to alleviate, the present situation. One week of cold weather will create enough public sentiment to force legislation even in the shortest session beginning in December. But even should there be no legislation, it is morally certain that there will be an investigation, inquiry into the merits of the situation, and, as a result, much light will be shed on the workings of the combination of railroads which control the anthracite coal fields.

Whatever may be thought of the propriety of attempts to control by legislative enactment mere combinations of capital, it is held by lawyers in the department of justice that there is no question as to the propriety and the power of the federal government to control railroads. The coal trust will be found, on inquiry, to be merely a matter of coal transportation, and it can, therefore be reached much more easily than the majority of trusts. But in regulating or investigating the coal trust, the general subject of trust legislation will be discussed and argued in all its phases.

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To be relieved of a torturing disease after 40 years' torture might well cause the gratitude of anyone. That is what Dr. Witt's Witch Hazel Salve did for C. Haney, Geneva, O. He says: "Dr. Witt's Witch Hazel Salve cured me of piles after I had suffered 40 years." Cures cuts, burns wounds, skin diseases. Beware of counterfeits. I. M. Helmev & Co.

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