

German Trade Envoy Here to Negotiate Economic Program

Dr. Westrick Says Reich Expects Peace That Will Permit Expansion

By the Associated Press.
NEW YORK, April 13.—Germany expects peace in the near future and plans to enter into an economic arrangement with the United States based upon the Hull reciprocal trade policy, her newly accredited diplomatic commercial representative said today.

Dr. Gerhardt Alois Westrick, commercial counselor to the German Embassy, said Germany was hopeful of a peace that would permit commercial expansion and prosperity throughout the world. His purpose here is to prepare the way for an economic settlement between Germany and the United States, he said, adding:

"I am hopeful of peace soon because Germany is not going to ask anything of England or France except free access to raw materials on a competitive basis and free trade and foreign exchange throughout the world along the lines of the Hull plan.

"A major step in such a trade arrangement would be the provision that United States investors in German plants would be paid interest on a United States dollar basis."

Is Leading Trade Expert.

Dr. Westrick is a leading German economic and trade expert and lawyer, partner of Dr. Heinrich Albert, former chancellor and finance minister of Germany. Dr. Westrick also is a friend and associate of Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, German minister without portfolio, who has been recently reported to be in this country secretly.

"I do not believe Dr. Schacht is in the United States," Dr. Westrick said. "When peace comes and a world economic conference is arranged, Dr. Schacht will have to come to work out foreign exchange problems.

"As you people well know, Germany cannot continue barter indefinitely and will have to go back to free trade and free foreign exchange, and Dr. Schacht is the man with the brains to arrange it." Dr. Westrick scoffed at reports current in Wall Street that he, Dr. Schacht, and others were negotiating directly with some leading United States commercial firms on the basis of providing foreign exchange to enable an increase of shipments from the United States to Germany, via Siberia, to beat the British blockade of Germany.

Germans Not Fooled.
"We in Germany do not fool ourselves," he said. "There is very little likelihood of increased shipments to Germany via the Pacific while the war lasts. The Trans-Siberian Railroad, over which I have just traveled, is working, but that is about all. Any notion of greatly increased shipments over it now is in the realm of fantasy.

"We see little immediate likelihood of increasing dollar exchange to enable Germany to purchase more goods in the United States, and we do not see any hope of developing barter trade with this country.

"All we can do now, and all I am here to do, is to nurse things along until peace comes, which I hope may be within a few months. Then we hope for a world economic conference, in which all grievances will be settled once and for all, without vindictiveness anywhere, so that we can have prosperity and peace for good.

"We believe that once we have removed the foreign exchange and raw material problems, that it will be very difficult for the politicians to



GERMAN TRADE TROUBLE-SHOOTER—Hans Thomsen (left), German Charge d'Affaires, brought to the State Department G. A. Westrick, the new German Commercial Counselor, who announced his mission is "to see that economic ties between the United States and the Reich are not broken" by the war.

—A. P. Photo.

lead people into wars because there will be prosperity.

"The general policies laid down in the Hull reciprocal trade agreements are the policies Germany hopes to follow after the peace in relation to the United States and the rest of the world. We want to get rid of the barter system as soon as we can."

Dr. Westrick Is Widely Known in America

BERLIN, April 13 (AP).—Gerhard A. Westrick is a widely known international lawyer who left the Reich some months ago apparently on a secret mission to win sympathy for the German side in the war.

Dr. Westrick represented various American banking and industrial firms and visited America frequently before the outbreak of the war. He has many friends in the United States.

He is a law partner of Heinrich Albert, who was commercial attaché to the German Embassy at Washington during the World War. So far as can be learned here, Dr. Westrick apparently was given diplomatic status in order to facilitate his movements.

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Britain and France May Place Orders For Fastest Bombers

Permission Is Given; New Plane Credited With 400 M.P.H. Speed

By the Associated Press.
Great Britain and France were given official permission by the War Department yesterday to place orders for a new-model Douglas attack bomber, believed to be the world's fastest of the type.

It was the fifth type of Army plane released for sale abroad under the administration's relaxed export policy.

A two-motor craft, the attack bomber is credited with a top speed of approaching 400 miles an hour, rivaling that of normally faster pursuit planes.

Designed largely to harass enemy troops and nearby military objectives, it bristles with machine guns and can carry a heavy bomb load and chemicals.

Other planes released for sale abroad, under conditions by which the Air Corps expects to obtain

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more advanced models at a later date, were all fighters, built primarily to cope with enemy bombers. They were the Bell P-39, the Curtiss P-40 and the Lockheed two-motor P-38, release of which also automatically released a Lockheed Hudson two-motor light bomber. Aviation quarters understood that still other Army and Navy planes would be made available shortly for sale abroad minus equipment, which the War Department considers secret.

The new Douglas attack bomber was described as advanced in design and performance over a similar craft which the French government has ordered by the hundreds.

Secretary Morgenthau Friday notified the Allied Purchasing Mission that, if it wanted fast deliveries on the latest American war-

planes, it would have to meet the cost of developing future better models for the Army Air Corps.

Secretary Morgenthau upheld the War Department on this point at a conference with Arthur B. Purvis, head of the Allied Purchasing Mission, on prospective aircraft orders which manufacturers have been told may reach \$1,000,000,000.

Japan may have food ration cards.

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