

*Giddings Deutsches Volksblatt*, 30 September 1915. Image 011400288.

Correspondence from Germany  
(From Matthaeus Hantscho)

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Family Home near Spremberg  
31 August 1915

Hello Volksblatt reader in the far away Texas,

We have wonderful summer weather. We are now getting more rain and everything grows well. There is much fruit, mushrooms, potatoes, and autumn fruit. England would like for Germany to starve to death but it will not happen; however, everything is becoming more expensive, flour, meat, butter, eggs, all kinds of grain have become very expensive. We don't know why it is this way. You can buy American wheat flour for 70 Pfennige per pound if you can show a ration card for bread. We are glad we can buy American flour as the English do not offer any.

I still receive the "Giddings Deutsches Volksblatt". As my report is so short I will be sending you Ernst Heiter's observations concerning the declaration of war by the Italians which he tells in a humorous and satirical way: "Italy has declared war already for the second time as if we did not have enough troubles, however, this new declaration is not for us, (cannot read several lines). Now the Union of the Four burn with honorable courage at the Dardanelles. Now Italy sends its ships to the Hellesponte, where Europe meets Asia. This is the second stupid coup which it carried out while the other three fought in Turkey. Soon the Fourth (Italy) will get what it deserves! Italy is a boot. It needs much polish to develop to its best look. The polish which the boot needs comes from Turkey so that it can prove that it is worth something. Also Libya and Tripolis will give the boot a good paddling. London and Paris cannot help because on one side Austria will punish Italy and on the other side the Turks will do the same. Italy declared the war and wants to beat the Turks but it will not want to dare a dance with the German sword. Despite all deceit and intrigues our enemy does not reach victory. No, he continues to embarrass himself as best he can.

Ernst Heiter

With a true German greeting to all Volksblatt readers I remain yours.  
The Railroader

Translated by Margot Hendricks