

Author of War Story This Paper Will Print Wrote for Peace's Sake

Citizen Sentinel (Ossining, N.Y., USA)

Jg. 27, 10.09.1929, Seite 1 + 3

Original:

Signatur: R-A 2.1.006/005

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›All Quiet on the Western Front‹ Expresses Opinion of Entire World Against War, Erich Maria Remarque Says in Exclusive Interview

Berlin. – Erich Maria Remarque told the United Press today in the first interview he has granted to a foreign correspondent, that in writing his realistic book ›All Quiet on the Western Front‹ he expressed the opinion of his whole generation throughout the world – that war must not come again.

›It was not the expression of an individual,‹ the young German candidate for the Nobel prize for literature said. ›I have expressed the opinion of a generation which is yearning for peace.‹

Modest to an extreme degree, Remarque was reluctant to talk about himself or even to talk about his work, which has been translated throughout the world and has created more discussion than any book of the time.

His reticence was soon forgotten, however, when the correspondent veered to the subject of world peace.

The young author said he had more than ample proof of the whole world was yearning for peace.

›I receive hundreds of letters *daily* from American, German, French, British and Italian soldiers,‹ he said. ›All of them tell me that I have expressed their feelings with regard to war.‹

Asked what he felt about the efforts of the diplomats to establish courts and leagues for the safeguarding of peace, Remarque said:

›I am not of a political turn of mind. I know little about politics. But my yearning for peace is so great that it makes me follow with interest the efforts to safeguard peace through The Hague and the international pacts and agreements.

›It is true that, viewed with the eyes of my generation, slow progress seems to have been made through the Kellogg anti-war pact, The Hague and other instruments. But even great strides are being made.

›Ten years comprise a very infinitesimal period in the world's history and the strides made are indicated by the fact that the representatives of nations which ten years ago were the bitterest enemies now are meeting around a table, trying jointly not only to liquidate the war but to secure future peace.‹

The young author settled one question by saying:

»I am preparing a second book, but not a war book. I have said all I have to say about war and I do not wish to appear as if I am riding on the crest of a war-book wave. For this reason I refused to adapt for the German stage the war play ›Journey's End‹.«

After the war Remarque tried to x-x out a living teaching school in a small rural community in Germany, until he felt he was »being left behind on the roadside.« He went to hannover and worked in an automobile and tire factory. He tried to write advertisements and later became a sub-editor on a Berlin sporting paper.

»But I never found contact with life,« he said. »Something seemed wrong until I decided to get rid of my thoughts of the war. I wrote ›All Quiet on the Western Front‹ within two months, in my spare time.«

»All Quiet on the Western Front« will begin as a serial in this paper on September 18.