Notes: Autobiography, Mussolini interview

1926-06-30

Writings of Ida M. Tarbell

Benito Mussolini. The Greatest Story in the World Today, McCall's 1926-1927

Tarbell, Ida M.

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Autobiography: Mussolini Interview

Must make something out of this. Attached is a note on Walter's experience which could be used as an example of the courtesy I found in the man - the impression I wrote at the time stresses on it rather badly. I think with some assistance I can do better. *

But the really amusing part is the resentment that I discovered in people I talked to back home that when I talked of this impression it shaded the big, black, definite monster that they had created to back up their hatred of dictators.

And Burton's phrase "lover boy with a dimple" did not bring even a smile to their lips. They wanted harsh Mussolini to be totally cruel, blustering. He must be to fit their picture.

Of course it was not only a dimple that I discovered in Mussolini - that love of people and his interest when I told him I had been there. Another real thing that aroused him was the question of homes. I must ask Agresti about those little houses South of Rome. I still feel if we ever get a real despot I hope he will be as good a one as Mussolini - put us in order with as little destruction.

* Luke up Cobb's unframed also Stein