The story in all the gazettes last week over "the great mystery" surrounding the cancellation of Lady Astor's speech before the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House at Washington isn't a mystery at all...

The fact is that more than a year ago, when several Congressmen were on The Other Side, they asked Lady Astor to assist in the Washington Bi-centennial, and she turned them down cold—for reasons, perhaps, she couldn't help... After all, Washington was one of England's first Pains-In-The-Neck, and if Lady Astor, an American born gal, helped revive any ill feeling the Britishers might have, she would have embarrassed her Lord and Parliament... However, the same men were on that committee the other day—and they wouldn't let her make that speech!... I have had my exciting moments since I started writing pieces for the papers—and I've had my news beats and boners, too... But the one of last Sunday night via the networks brought swift response... I had groaned over the punishment administered George B. Messersmith, the American consul-general at Berlin, who was slugged and socked by the American news services for being the person who embarrassed Einstein—when he wasn't the dunce who asked those sappy questions, at all!... I pointed out that when the news services later learned that he wasn't to blame, having been hundreds of miles away at the time, they buried the dispatch in the rear, and haven't yet learned the name of the attache responsible for the internationally known story... That was on Sunday night... At 4:22 p.m. Monday the State Dept. sent out a statement exonerating Messersmith...