

Grave Situation in Germany

Anti-Jewish Outrages Increase in Intensity

Jewry in Hiding—Murder and Pillage

GRAVE indeed is the position of Jews in Germany, as indicated in the cable news which has reached South Africa during the week. Not only have Jewish-owned shops and warehouses been closed and Jews attacked and tortured in various parts of Germany, but murder has been committed.

An official Nazi statement says the action against the Jewish shops was not ordered by the party, but that the patriotic population "evidently was not prepared to give further support to the existence of Jewish warehouses and shops and demanded their closure."

Children are being encouraged in demonstrations to sing anti-Semitic songs and assaults on men who are Jews, or considered to be Jews, are growing in frequency.

The well-known conductor at the Dresden Opera House, Fritz Busch, was unceremoniously ejected from the conductor's desk by Nazis, on the ground that he was a Jew and often goes abroad, though as a matter of fact he is not a Jew.

All shops owned by Jews in Essen have been closed.

Captain Goering's Statement.

THE vigorous protests of the Jewish community elicited a statement from Captain Goering that in so far as Jewish citizens "were loyal to the Government, the safety of their life and property were provided by law."

On the other hand Captain Goering, speaking elsewhere in Berlin, in a speech rejecting the idea of police protection for Jewish stores said: "We have been telling the people for years that they might settle their accounts with traitors. We stand by our word. Accounts are being settled."

It is reported that outrages on Jews and their property continue. In several parts of Berlin Jews were openly attacked in the streets on Friday last, and knocked down and seriously injured by Nazis. The police intervene only to take up the injured and remove them to hospital.

Storm Troops Active.

DETACHMENTS of storm troops can frequently be seen marching to large department stores, forming a cordon in front of the entrance, and putting up the notice: "Germans, don't buy from Jews." Many customers, therefore, are afraid to enter these large stores or smaller shops run by Jews, but many small shopkeepers secretly approve of these tactics, as they fear the competition of the larger stores. There is a possibility that if this movement spreads, the large shops may be entirely closed, thus increasing unemployment.

Several cases of kidnapping and indeed of torture are being spoken of, but as practically no Left newspapers now exist in Germany, it is impossible to obtain confirmation.

Revolted Torture.

SENSATIONAL revelations were published by the *Daily Herald* in London on Saturday last dealing with the revolting system of torture and brutal ill-treatment being practised on arrested Communists and Jews by gangs of Nazis. These have got completely out of hand and even indulge in orgies and terrorism. No effort is being made to check them and the outrages are increasing in number.

The newspaper describes the plight of well known

Jews as pitiable in the extreme. Few sleep in their own homes, the risk of being raided and assaulted being so great.

The synagogues and Jewish homes are being broken into and wrecked. Jewish children are made by other children to suffer intensely, being mocked and spat upon until their lives are almost unbearable. Persecution is rampant and no-one is making the slightest attempt to stop it.

Murder of Dr. Spiegel.

A dreadful crime was carried out in Berlin on Sunday last. Two men, one wearing a Nazi uniform, knocked at the door of Dr. Wilhelm Spiegel, the eminent Socialist Jewish lawyer, and shouted: "Police, open."

Dr. Spiegel's wife begged him not to comply, but while she was telephoning to the nearest police office she heard shots, and found her husband dead in the doorway.

Another crime took place on the same day when Herr Spiegel, the well known solicitor who acted for the German-Socialist Party in many political lawsuits, was shot dead in his home.

Herr Josef Ostermaier, the well known Jewish town councillor of Munich, was brutally assaulted by Nazis armed with riding whips. His life is despaired of.

Hundreds in Hiding.

Hundreds of Jews are hiding, others walk about in constant dread of attack. At Breslau men in storm detachment uniform turned Jewish judges and counsel out of the law courts. Jewish journalists are being intimidated all over the country.

Large numbers of Jews are crossing into Alsace. Hundreds of others, however, are poor, and many women are carrying babies in arms. All along the Rhineland Hitler flags are flying from synagogues and many Jewish homes are marked with his sign.

Refugees from Germany.

LARGE numbers of refugees from Germany, many of whom are Jews, are reaching Paris, Geneva, Rome and other European cities. Special arrangements are being made in Paris to house Jewish refugees who are without means.

The Jewish asylum in the Rue Lamarck, the largest institution of its kind in France, has never received so many applicants for food and shelter. Among the refugees is Miss Spiegel, daughter of the lawyer who was assassinated at Kiel.

Grave Indictment.

STORIES told by the refugees and confirmed by the Berlin correspondents of London newspapers constitute a grave indictment of the Nazis and their followers. Men walking in the streets and believed from their appearance to be Jews are attacked by Brown Shirts armed with revolvers and pieces of hose pipe, and beaten until they howl in agony.

In the West End of Berlin, where a large proportion of the population is Jewish, the main thoroughfares look in the evening as if they had been depopulated by a pestilence.

A systematic campaign has been undertaken by the Nazis for eliminating Jews from their position of

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IN GERMANY*(Concluded from previous page.)*

intellectual influence, and further steps in that campaign are prophesied.

Herr Goebbels, who has been officially appointed Minister of Propaganda, is the principal leader of this anti-Semitic campaign, and is publishing in his paper "Angriff" (Attack) violent attacks on Jews.

Decent Germans Horrified.

VARIOUS houses in Berlin, including one notorious house in the Friedrich Strasse, are being used for rounding up Marxists, pacifists and Jews, and abominable outrages are reported to have taken place there.

Several Jews maltreated are American citizens. They include Edward Dahlberg, who is writing for Scribner's Magazine. He was brutally assaulted by a man in Nazi uniform, a butcher's assistant, in the presence of the police. The American Ambassador is taking up his case.

The only bright spot on the horizon is that there are distinct signs that decent Germans are horrified by these outrages and some Germans are actually uttering protests.

Anxiety of World Jewry.

MEANWHILE the Jewish situation in Germany is causing the deepest apprehension and anxiety in world Jewry. The American Jewish Congress has declared its determination to assist German Jews. A Jewish World Conference is being called shortly for the main purpose of organising world Jewish opinion in defence of German Jewry.

News received through the Imperial Airmail by the *Zionist Record* indicates that leading German Jews are extremely pessimistic about the present serious situation. The idea is no longer to make the Jews appear responsible, as in the past, for all the misery that has come to Germany, but they are also responsible for active violence committed by the communists against the Nazis.

The "bestial murders" are all represented for the work of Jews. The rise in the cost of living is equally described "exclusively Jewish."

Some of the Nazi leaders are threatened that if any attack is made on them they will avenge themselves on the Jews, and no one knows to what this may lead. "If a hair is touched on Hitler's head, Jews will be strung up on the lamp posts"—is the latest slogan used by speakers at Nazi meetings. It is also feared that the Nazi Government, once established, will withdraw all rights from Jewish citizens. Advice has been tendered that Jews should abandon their struggle for equal rights. The Central Union of German citizens of the Jewish faith has declared that it will never voluntarily go back to the Ghetto.

In all, the above reports indicate a most tragic situation for our brethren in Germany.

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Nazi Government in Austria Next?

AUSTRIAN JEWRY IN STATE OF ALARM

Vienna, February 23rd.

IT is feared that Austria will follow Germany's example by setting up a coalition Government of the present Government Party, the Christian Socialists and the Nazis.

Parliamentary elections are to be held as soon as possible, and Austrian internal policy is to be adjusted to fit in with that of Germany.

This is said to be the trend of events following an interview which the German Chancellor Hitler has just had with the Austrian Nazi leaders and others acting as mediators on behalf of the Austrian Christian Socialist Party. The Nazi press confirms these reports to some extent by stating that the formation of such a Nazi coalition Government is the condition which Hitler has put to Austria to secure Germany's financial and economic assistance.

Austrian Jewry is naturally in a state of alarm, and fears that the transformation is to be effected some time in the spring of this year.

"Palestine and Near East Economic Magazine: Tourist Number, 1933."

A word of sincere congratulation must be extended to all who have helped to make the present periodical under review so interesting and so educative in tone. Those of us who have perused previous annual issues of the "Palestine and Near East Magazine" know how finely it is got up and the permanent value of its literary fare and scintillating illustrations. The current issue is devoted to the extraordinary richness of archaeological labours in Eretz Israel, past and present, with its immediate lessons on the future of a people's hope in the Holy Land. A stout volume it is, and all its matter is penned in simple language. Its illustrations, printed clearly on art paper, are quite apposite.

The issue contains an interesting article on the Palestine citrus industry during 1932. There is also a most informative article on Palestine railways. The article, entitled, "Progress Passed Transjordan By," is particularly apt at the present moment.

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