

GERMAN INHUMANITY

It is difficult to even try to comprehend some of the motives of Nazi Germany in its latest program of inhuman and barbarous treatment of the Jews. The news of yesterday, telling of the expulsion of Jewish students from all German institutions of higher learning, added to the desperate fear of German Jewry as to what will happen next.

It seems hardly possible that Nazi leaders can believe the people of the world will accept their explanation that this new display of bitterness is a retaliation for the rash deed of the young Jewish refugee who fatally wounded a German diplomat in Paris last week.

Herschel Grynszpan was only 17 years old. Even so, youthful a man, though, could not help but resent the expulsion of his parents and sisters and brothers from Germany, to be felt as if in an unfamiliar country as "undesirable aliens" from the hand of the Nazis. No wonder his mind became so inflamed that he fired five fatal shots at the third secretary of the German embassy in Paris.

The rash act of the young Jew was no "plot of international Jewry" against the Germans. It was only an isolated instance of resentment, an individual act of revenge against the cruel and inhuman treatment accorded his family by Nazi officials.

They, though, employed it as the signal for a new campaign against Jews in Greater Germany. Jewish synagogues were burned, shops smashed and plundered, Jews beaten and arrested. More than a score committed suicide. A decree was issued prohibiting them from conducting retail trade, from entering commission or handicraft enterprises. A fine of \$100,000,000 was levied on German Jews as "a penalty for the dauntless murder in Paris." They were barred from movie houses, theatres, concert halls and now they are expelled from institutions of higher learning.

This tyranny of the Nazis against the Jews cannot be blamed on the single act of the youth Grynszpan in Paris. That, though, is used by the Nazis as the incident with which to base a barbarous extension of the anti-Jewish program throughout their land. Most of the world regards the continuation of this program. And yet it will go on, because does not Herr Goebbels, minister of propaganda, say "The German people are an anti-Semitic people and will not tolerate having their rights curtailed or being provoked by the parasitic Jewish race"?

Still, it is difficult to understand how the Reich can plead for the minorities outside its own borders while it degrades itself by its own outrageous conduct against minorities within itself.

Clipped By:



dposkitt

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