

# “Hitler and His Nazi Problem”

ASRU BHUSAN DUTTA.

2nd Year. Isc.

The rise of Herr Hitler to power in Germany is one of the most important events of recent years. The whole world is watching the experiments that are being carried on in Nazi Germany to-day. In the sphere of international relations, Germany has once more begun to play her part. And it is no exaggeration to say that the peace of the world depends to-day more on Hitler than on any one else.

The National Socialist (of which Nazi is an abbreviated form) party was founded in Germany in 1920. The programme of this party was outlined in Hitler's famous manifesto of the 25th February, 1920. In 1926 this programme was revised and brought up-to-date. If you go through the Twenty-five Points of this programme or through Hitler's autobiography (My Struggle), which has now become the bible of the German youth, you will find that National Socialism is a destructive as well as constructive doctrine.

National Socialism wants to destroy many ideas and many institutions. It repudiates the whole democratic ideology and democratic form of Government, the basic principle of which is the equality of man. Like Italian Fascism, National Socialism denies that the majority should direct human society. In the opinion of Hitler, “the best constitution is that which naturally brings the best brains out of the whole community of leadership.” He believes in the inequality of mankind. Absolute equality is neither possible nor desirable. And even if equality be the objective, he thinks it cannot be achieved through democratic institutions or universal suffrage. For the sovereignty of the people under a democratic regime is nothing but an illusion. National Socialism aims therefore at personal leadership and individual responsibility in every department of national life. In every walk of life there should be a leader (Führer) to command and others to obey. “It has been the iron rule in the party and is to become the iron rule in the nation,”—so says Hitler.

Just as National Socialism is opposed to democracy, similarly it is opposed to the doctrine of Liberalism, the basic idea of which is "laissez-faire, laissez-aller." Even in its palmiest days it was a great force in German politics. At present it stands completely discredited in Germany. Herr Hitler believes in collectivism and state-interference. Yet he is an enemy of socialism as represented by the German social democrats, and of communism as represented by Karl Marx and Lenin.

Hitler, like almost all other Germans, is a collectivist. Indeed National Socialism is a contribution of Germany to theory and practice of government just as Liberalism and Democracy are the contributions of England. Hitler would base the whole economic life of his country on the principles of socialism. National Socialism is different from ordinary Socialism in that it is based wholly upon the needs and requirements of the German people. Although it believes in state-interference, it does not believe in the state-ownership of the means of production. Further, the international outlook, the belief in democracy, liberty and pacifism and the idea of international class struggle is being challenged by the Nazis.

The aim of the Nazis is apparently the establishment of a unified racial-state. Uniformity is a word that appeals most to German people. Disunity has been the cardinal weakness of the German people for over a thousand years. Hitler's dream is to unite the whole German race under one strong, centralised Government which is at present scattered in so many countries of Europe. His dream, if not fully realised, has at least completed the unification of the German Reich—certainly not a small achievement.

He has destroyed all political parties in Germany. Those who oppose the Nazis have been, and will continue to be, ruthlessly eliminated. The same course is being followed in the sphere of religion. The political organisations of the Catholics who formed the central party have been destroyed and a concordat which regulates all the material interests of both the parties has been concluded between the German Government and the Pope. An attempt has been also made to bring the Protestant parties under one central authority. This religious unification has caused the case-

of the Jews to be really a trying one in Germany. Article 4 of the Nazi-Programme says :—"Only a member of a nation can be a citizen. Only one who is of German blood irrespective of religion, can be a member of the nation. No Jew can therefore be a member of the nation." Germans and Hitler hate Jews as they hate nothing else. Hitler believes that "by fighting the Jews, 'I am' doing the Lord's work."

The object of Hitler's foreign policy is the annulment of the Treaty of Versailles in all its aspects. Militarily, thanks to the rearmament policy of the Air-Force as the Kaiser was about the Navy. The clause of the treaty of Versailles demilitarising the Rhineland has been violated. He considers Russia and France to be the natural enemies of his country. With Russia he is not prepared to talk the subject of peace. She has been systematically excluded from all German's offer of peace.

The economic and social distress has been the most important factors in Hitler's success. "Extremism flourishes under such conditions as a lost war, a cruel treaty, a revolution, an unprecedented inflation of German currency, heavy reparations, high taxation, great unemployment." All this can make any people miserable. The undemocratic temperament of the German people helped him a good deal. Germany lays more stress on the duties of a person—rather than his rights.

Above all, the personality of Hitler is responsible for the success of his movement. He is a great orator, not a common gift among the Germans. He has been described as a "spell binder." "His simplicity, his idealism, his burning love for the Fatherland make a great appeal to the Germans." He is not highly educated, but this deficiency is made up for by his intense earnestness and deep conviction. He came at a psychological moment when the people wanted a change. They were tired of unemployment and parliamentarism.

His labours have delivered the German people from the sense of humiliation and inferiority under which the country had laboured since the war. He has greatly reduced the number of the

unemployed. He has an immeasurable power—a united German nation of sixty-six millions behind him. The danger is that if there is no lasting improvement in the economic condition, he may have to resort to war, the last refuge of a dictator. Let us hope he will use this power for the well-being of his Father-land and for the peace of the world.

## “Sweet are the uses of adversity”

SACHINANDAN BASAK,  
2nd Year Science. Sec ‘A’.

“Sweet are the uses of adversity,  
Which like a toad, ugly and venomous,  
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head,”

—*Shakespeare.*

Gray defines adversity as the “daughter of Jove, relentless power and the tamer of human breast.” There is certainly something in adversity which breaks down the heart. Just carefully mark a man when fortune smiles upon him and see the change that comes upon him when he suffers from the ‘slings and arrows’ of misfortune. His ductile spirit undergoes a heavy change and he is always found with a clouded, furrowed brow. The air of indignancy and pride he wore when he was the favourite child of fortune, does no longer remain; and instead of that sorrow always overclouds his heart. But this is not all. Another peculiar feature of adversity is that when it comes, it comes in battalions. And, it is naturally therefore, the person who is visited by misfortune is taken aback; —he becomes stupefied and crest-fallen.

But then, adversity, although it is the worst type of calamities which befall mankind, is really ‘a blessing in disguise.’ If there were no misfortunes in walks of life, if we always slept in the