

GENERAL SCIENCE

America Must Realize Nazi Terror Opposite of Liberty

David Cushman Coyle Describes Difference Between The Planning of Dictatorship and That of America

URGING half-awake America not to play into Hitler's hands by carelessly hurling the name "dictator" at American officials and by lightly using the word "purge" when we mean merely firing—not shooting—David Cushman Coyle, engineer-economist has strongly advised Americans to sharpen up their blurred picture of the real difference between democracy and Europe's New Order of Terror.

Mr. Coyle spoke in Washington before the Academy of World Economics in joint session with the national social science honor society, Pi Gamma Mu.

Citing the Terror as a prime characteristic of life in the New Order of Europe, Mr. Coyle said that the Terror is not such incidents as ordinary harmless people having to stand by while friends and relatives are beaten and killed, or dragged to an unknown fate.

"The Terror," declared Mr. Coyle, "is an overhead condition that draws together all these individual acts of cruelty into a closed trap, a cage from which there is no escape. The people living under the Nazi shadow cannot get out."

Nazi Nordics themselves are entrapped, surrounded by waves of hate, continued Mr. Coyle.

A necessary feature of dictatorship, the Terror, he declared, is so essentially emotional that the only effective medium to make it understood is drama. Moving pictures, he prophesied, will have major importance in explaining the Terror and its opposite, Liberty, to Americans, if our democracy is roused in time to survive.

Offering a simple definition of democracy, to end confused arguments as to whether to call Greece, China, and England democracies, Mr. Coyle said:

"I would suggest that democracy means to us a way of private and public life that is intended to meet our standards of decency and good will."

Pointing out that democracy does not have to be perfect to be democracy, he advocated clearer understanding of our country's ideals and good traits, "to

avoid succumbing to Hitler's efforts to create confusion among us."

"With all our faults," said Mr. Coyle, "we still believe in decency and honesty and sportsmanship. We do not in cold blood believe in kicking any one when he is down. We believe that equality of opportunity is the birthright of all Americans, even if we neglect to provide for it.

"We are unselfish at times, and quick to dig into our pockets to help any victim of disaster who happens to arouse our imagination. Our worship of money is half-hearted, and we often fall away into idealistic longings for something better, particularly for the affection and respect of our fellow-citizens.

"Let us not be blind to our own faults or to our virtues, for we may as well recognize that to half the people of the world we seem, at a distance, to be living in a heaven on earth, a land of hearts' desire."

Americans were advised to try to understand why the Nazi system is strong.

"Nazism," he pointed out, "embodies a strong form of engineering, a strong economic organization and a strong religion, all of which we must meet and overcome if we can."

Nazi engineering he described as having the strength of central planning, with no nonsense allowed. Workers cannot strike. Business men cannot dicker about prices. Producers of material cannot raise prices, or close down for lack of profits. Protecting personal interests is not allowed.

Centralization of authority in Nazi Germany is not technically very different from the ordinary technical organization of any large engineering project, such as building a great dam in our country, explained the engineer speaker. The difference is that in a free country, any one dissatisfied can resign, be fired, or refuse a contract, and start elsewhere. In Nazi conditions, there is no escape.

Emphasizing that Nazi engineering applied to a whole nation is efficient, as our own engineering jobs on a smaller scale are efficient, Mr. Coyle said that

this gives the Nazis the jump on the whole world in total national engineering. But, he added, the price is still to be paid, because the "no escape" feature has led to killing and imprisoning men, and has aroused hate and fear.

"In the long run, we believe, that kind of engineering will not hold its efficiency," he concluded. "The problem, of course, is to resist its terrific striking power in the short run, while its efficiency is high and the penalty for its cruelty has not yet fallen due."

Nazi economics benefited by being free of the superstitious phobia of economy that paralyzed the larger democracies during the years of Hitler's rise, Mr. Coyle stated, adding: "While the United States wasted thirty to fifty billion dollars of productive power a year for fear of spending, Hitler built his tremendous war machine by simply keeping every one on the job."

Fatal weakness in this system, is seen as Hitler's inability to make every one work for any such harmless purpose as to raise the general standard of living. This the democracies alone are capable of learning and achieving.

Describing the Nazi religion as "low but vital," Mr. Coyle said:

"Nothing can stand against even the lowest form of religious brotherhood except a better and higher form."

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PHYSICS—MUSIC

Continuous Broadcast of Frequency Signals Resumed

AGAIN it is possible to get a standard musical note of "A" by radio, with which you can tune pianos and other musical instruments.

All you need is a shortwave radio receiver, capable of tuning the five-megacycle band. On that frequency, National Bureau of Standards' station WWV, operating 24 hours a day, transmits the musical note of "A" above middle "C", which is 440 cycles per second. In addition, there is a pulse each second, heard as a faint tick. Every five minutes, the note is interrupted for a minute to make the announcement, in telegraphic code.

The former transmitter of WWV was destroyed by a fire last November, which necessitated cessation of these broadcasts. They are now carried on a temporary transmitter of one kilowatt power. This has a daytime range of about 500 miles in summer and 1000 miles in winter, while at night it can be received through most of the country.

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