

GENERAL SCIENCE-

German Nationalism Danger To World's Great Scientists

Forbidding Eminent Intellectuals to Exercise Talents Is Grave Injustice, Says British Science Journal

THE WAVE of intellectual intolerance now engulfing Germany endangers some of the world's greatest scientists. From those nations which are still intellectually free, there come protestations in the form of denials of the scientific validity of the Nazi claims and the organization of practical help for the German scientific refugees.

In a leading article, the British scientific journal, "Nature," summarizes as follows scientific opinion on the German situation:

"Germany, responding to the call of patriotic emotion—as she has more than once before, but never with such abandon—would appear to have handed herself over body and soul to Herr Hitler. Acting on a given view of history and a prescribed theory of racial and national regeneration, she seeks to purge herself of elements felt to be inimical or to stand in the way of the realization of his ideal.

"A new communism, imposed by force, but accepted widely if not yet universally, with an enthusiasm which appears to have crossed the bounds of fanaticism, bids fair to reduce the whole of Germany as nearly as is humanly possible to one common denominator and to block every angle of vision but one in her political and intellectual kingdoms alike.

Ethnological Facts Edited

"Both historian and anthropologist may look askance at the Hitlerian view of racial history and psychology as suspect in origin. They may dismiss with a smile the 'Aryan' claim to exclusive rights in the swastika. It is not the first time that ethnological facts have been 'edited' to bolster political aspiration or flatter national vanity; nor will it be the last. If, in electing to remould herself as an organised State, Germany has chosen to rely on the hypnotic effect of a pseudo-scientific theory now exploded—an instrument which may break in her hand—that is her affair and concerns no one but herself.

"In expelling from public life those who, on racial or political grounds, are regarded as beyond the pale, Germany, by her own act, deprives herself of the services of some of her most eminent intellectuals. These are men prominent in the arts and sciences, in public life, in the professions and in education, who have raised and maintained her in the foremost ranks of intellectual achievement among the nations. This may well seem a blunder, at which the whole

MEDICINE

Swiss Adds Iodine to Garden To Prevent Goiter in Family

A SWISS physician, Dr. H. Hunziker, has had potassium iodide added to the fertilizer for the garden which supplies his family with vegetables. The object was to insure a sufficient supply of iodine to prevent the development of goiters in his children. Lack of iodine in the Swiss soil and water is responsible for a large number of goiters among the people of that country.

This physician's experiment was a significant contribution to scientific knowledge of how to prevent goiter, Dr. Karl G. Zwick of Cincinnati pointed out in a note to the current issue of Science.

Dr. Hunziker kept records of the circumference of the neck in the region of the thyroid gland in his own five children and in five other children who ate vegetables raised on soil which was not iodized. These records showed plainly that the iodine prevented the development of goiter. One of the girls in the control group who ate non-iodized vegetables after two and one-half years asked to be treated for a rapidly enlarging goiter.

Very minute amounts of iodine are sufficient to prevent the development of this type of goiter, Dr. Zwick pointed

civilized world stands aghast, a misreading of history and a fatal misinterpretation of the conditions of progress in a modern society, in which, in these days of fierce competition, every resource of science is pressed into the service of social and commercial advancement. Yet even such action as this, although it has its international aspect, as a domestic matter, it is held, does not concern the outside world.

Intellectual Companionship Difficult

"But in forbidding men of German nationality, who have served their country loyally in peace and war, to exercise their talents, and in depriving them of the means of livelihood, Germany has been guilty, in the eyes of the world, of an act of grave injustice, which has made intellectual companionship with her difficult."

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out. The Swiss physician, Dr. Hunziker, did not determine the amount of iodine in his vegetables which prevented the development of goiter in his children. He added in one year 17 grams of potassium iodide to 1,200 square meters of soil. This would be about an ounce to two-thirds of an acre. The next year he used slightly more of the iodide.

One to 100,000,000

As little as one part of sodium iodide in 100,000,000 parts of water is sufficient to prevent goiter, two other investigators, Drs. J. F. McClendon and J. C. Hathaway have found.

Turnips grown in iodine treated soil had 441 parts per billion of the iodine in the roots, and 950 parts per billion in the tops, Drs. A. B. Beaumont and George M. Karns recently reported. Turnips grown in soil treated with chloride instead of iodine had 165 parts per billion of iodine in the roots and 441 parts per billion in the tops, showing the large relative increase in iodine content in this vegetable when it is grown in soil to which iodine has been added.

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