

POPULATION

Hitler Must Deal With New Racial Problems

Fully a Half of the Jews in the Region Affected By Latest Crisis Are Poor and Set Apart in Customs

ENTIRELY new racial problems will face Hitler in his dealing with the people of Czechoslovakia.

There were 380,000 Jews in Czechoslovakia before its dismemberment, according to an estimate made in 1937. But an analysis of the population made by Dr. Christopher Tietze, population expert at the Johns Hopkins University, for Science Service, indicates that fully one-half of these are Jews of a type with which Hitler has never had to deal before.

The Jews of Bohemia and Moravia belong nearly all to the white collar class as did the German Jews. They speak German or Czech for the most part. They live, dress, eat and work in much the same way as their neighbors. They are "assimilated."

The Jews in Carpatho-Russia, the Eastern part of the region affected by the new crisis, present a very different picture. They think of themselves as Jewish in nationality as well as religion. They speak Yiddish and follow their own ancient customs in dress and ways of life.

The region in which they live is to be a part of Hungary, not Germany, at least at present. But the fact that they are not directly under the dictatorship of Hitler now can offer them very little reassurance.

These eastern Jews are poor—extremely poor. They can contribute no wealth to the German Reich. They are very much like the Jews that came to the United States from Russia in great numbers several years ago. Very few can be called middle-class. Almost none belong to the professional class.

Although the Bohemian and Moravian Jews include a disproportionately large number of old people and few children, these eastern Jews have large numbers of babies and small children. The birth rate among these people gives an average of four babies to each woman who has lived through the child-bearing age as compared with an average of only one child per woman among the Jews in Bohemia.

Between the eastern Jews of the Carpatho-Russia and the western type of Bohemia and Moravia are the Jews of Slovakia who are also of a middle type in culture, language and assimilation. These Jews, who are quite unlike the Jews of Germany, will now be dealt with by Hitler.

The gypsies of Slovakia will present another racial problem, for there are more than 30,000 living there. They are also people of different ways and they have many children. Many of them are nomadic.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1939

Germany Equals Rome

GERMANY, shouting for more territory, now has an area almost exactly equal to that of the old Holy Roman Empire in 1806, just before its fall.

With the annexation of Bohemia and Moravia, Germany has an estimated 244,000 square miles; the Holy Roman Empire in 1806 included 243,000 square miles, it is revealed by a study of the growth of Germany just completed by Dr. Tietze.

The annexation of Slovakia brings Germany's territory up to 259,000 square miles.

The population of Germany is, however, very much greater than that of the Holy Roman Empire. It includes 10,000,000 non-German subjects.

Including Slovakia, Germany has a grand total of 88,500,000. The last Holy Roman emperor ruled 29,000,000 people; at the peak of its expansion, the empire held sway over 370,000 square miles of territory, but the population numbered only 16,000,000.

Germany today has 25 per cent. more territory than she had before the World War in 1914, Dr. Tietze's study reveals. Starting with a nucleus of 140,000 square miles in the East Franconian Empire after the treaty of Verdun in 843, and 270,000 square miles under Conrad I, the first German king, Germany had only 260,000 square miles in the German Federation under Austrian

● RADIO

Lewis W. Waters, vice president in charge of research, General Foods Corporation, will be the guest scientist on "Adventures in Science" with Watson Davis, Director, Science Service, over the coast to coast network of the Columbia Broadcasting System, Saturday, April 8, 6:15 p. m. EST, 5:15 p. m. CST, 4:15 p. m. MST, 3:15 p. m. PST. Listen in on your local station. Listen in each Saturday.

leadership in 1815 and only 209,000 square miles in the German Empire after its proclamation in Versailles in 1871.

The area of the German Empire remained the same until after the Great War when it was cut to 181,000 square miles.

In the last five years this territory has increased 43 per cent. The Saar territory built it up to 182,000 square miles; Austria made it 214,000, the Sudetenland 225,000, Bohemia-Moravia 244,000 and Slovakia 259,000 square miles.

The population growth was not proportional. The increase in population since 1930 is, however, 38 per cent.—from 64,300,000 to 88,500,000. Germany's expansion has not meant much more room for her population.

The population data used by Dr. Tietze in this study are estimated for those years before 1871. Other estimates may differ by several millions from these, but accurate census figures are not available.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1939

AERONAUTICS

Wing of Stratoliner Same As Flying Fortress

APPARENT failure of the wing of the giant Boeing 307, which crashed and killed ten persons near Seattle, is puzzling to informed aeronautical men. because the wing of the 22-ton passenger plane is believed to be identical with the wing of the Army Air Corps' world-famous "Flying Fortress" bombers, which have been proved by years of strenuous service.

The accident is one of the extremely few in recent years in which structural failure appeared to be involved, thus adding to the general air of mystery surrounding the crash. The last disaster in this category involved a commercial airliner, of a type not widely used in the United States, whose tail assembly came off, due to a faulty design subsequently corrected on all planes of that class.

Science News Letter, April 1, 1939