

45-84  
10088001

### YOUNG GERMANY

The legacy of Hitler's Germany lies heavy on Europe's children. Nazism poisoned the younger generation. In my recent visit to Germany I saw the new kind of education which we hope will combat the evil effects of Hitler's cradle snatching such as the Allies discovered.

#### (INTERVIEWS)

Not often in history has a conqueror made it his first job to educate the children of the conquered. But that is what Allied administrators are doing in Germany, and a colossal task it is. I met some of the British officials in charge of Education in Germany.

At the Berlin Volksschule, I saw German children in the first stages of their experience. To youngsters reared in regimentation and the bullying methods of the Nazis it must all have seemed very informal. I particularly noticed the thorough medical check up the children received. Germs do not stop at frontiers. A serious outbreak of disease might make Germany a plague spot infecting the rest of Europe. Doctors are specially on the look-out for signs of tuberculosis and rickets, diseases that come most easily to under-fed children. Feeding is another major problem. Under Allied supervision, only children suffering from severe malnutrition get a school meal, - a bowl of soup. During the war, German children were comparatively well fed, and they are still in better physical condition than the children of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Russia. But already I noticed the first signs of malnutrition. And whatever happens to adults in Germany this winter, we are trying to ensure that the children will not die of starvation.

Shortage of schools makes re-education difficult. In some areas, open air classes help to overcome the lack of school buildings. There is also a shortage of teachers since no Nazis are allowed to teach. We are replacing the old fascist textbooks full of vicious propaganda, by new books which we issue in monthly parts.

The children themselves help with the job of getting their schools ship-shape again. In target areas German schools closed down during the last year of the war. Now there is a desperate desire to begin lessons again.

45-8A

100823-5

I saw schools at work on the new lines. Arithmetic, science, no propaganda here but all Nazi ideas of history have had to be rooted out. Plenty of games. Not the flag wagging and military parades of the past but the simple childrens' games common to all nations. We are not putting German Youth before the welfare of our British children, but the hope of future security in Europe depends on training these young minds in the ways of peace and justice.

To Berlin for the first meeting of the Allied Tribunal come the Lord Chancellor and Mr. McGaskie, K.C., who will attend the trial of the major War Criminals. British representatives of the judges panel are Lord Justice Lawrence and Mr. Justice Birkett. Other British legal experts include Sir David Maxwell Fyfe and Attorney General Sir Hartley Shawcross.

From this quiet beginning may develop one of the tensest trials in legal history. The chief survivors of the old Nazi gang will answer accusations of War Guilt, in a fight to save their skins.