



AS WE SEE IT

By DAN PATRICK

"The German people will only make the cost of their defeat heavier to themselves by attempting to continue a hopeless resistance. . . . It is not our purpose to destroy the people of Germany, but only when Nazism and militarism have been extirpated will there be hope for a decent life for Germans, and a place for them in the family of nations."

This quote the Big Three in their report on the Crimea conference in a reaffirmation of the unconditional surrender formula. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin refused to renew the terms of such surrender. Rather they pointedly said:

"These terms will not be made known until the final defeat of Germany has been accomplished."

History alone will judge the wisdom of this decision. It reverses completely the policy followed by President Wilson in World War I when he dangled his famous fourteen points before the eyes of war-weary Germans and hastened the armistice.

Translated into everyday English, the Big Three told the German people:

"You better get out of the war now while the getting out is good. We won't destroy you as a people but that's the only definite promise we'll make. You surrender unconditionally and then . . . and only then . . . will you learn the price of peace."

It seems to us that our further last stand point must be considered and that in the ability of the German people to surrender.

If the people were able to denounce Nazism in a word, it would be very hard the surrenders would have come more easily. But they are still in bondage by their Nazi masters so completely that only had poor Hitler was able to denounce death throughout the Reich to those who "hate their duty."

This war, then, is quite different from WWI. At that time the German generals of the Sudetenland and, realizing the inevitability of defeat, forced the abdication of the Hohenzollern dynasty and the substitution of a government to deal with the Allies.

In the present instance, the Nazis have stampeded such an iron-clad rule on both the military and civilian that it is next to impossible for either group to initiate a movement for surrender. In the final analysis, the Nazis have everything to gain and nothing to lose by holding out as long as possible. Through whatever valley of "blood, sweat, toil and tears," the Nazis must travel to the permanence of this policy. They are bound to do this religious and irrevocably.

Any word spoken relative to the plight of the German people at the present time is generally misconstrued as the voice of appeasement and a negotiated peace. In our case we want to put in a detail in anticipation of such a charge.

We do not for one moment feel that the German people are guilty in this warpage. It was their lack of vision which enabled the Nazis to throttle Germany. They stood by like blind fools and observed as Hitler took over and planted the seeds for the great world conflict.

But the German people were not alone in their blindness. France stood by and so did England. Their do-nothing governments made the Nazis bolder with each successive stroke of power politics from the reoccupation of the Rhineland to Munich. The attempts at Democratic government in Germany during the post-war years proved to be miserable failures because the regimes of themselves were shaky and the added yoke of crushing reparations all but sent them crashing to the ground to pave the way for the despotism of Hitler.

In connection with this very real problem comes a new book by Miss Gordon entitled "Horror All Around." Miss Gordon, a devout Catholic and religious apologist of the National Catholic University, has done her best to say the least and her observations are worthy of note.

The Saturday Review of Literature looks with commendable tolerance on her findings and makes note of Gordon's statement that the German people themselves really were the first to be conquered by Hitler.

On the other hand the New York Times gives Gordon's report for an understanding of the problems of the German people an unmerciful beating down. And Gordon has done just that. This is surely the attitude that he deserves. The Times publication demands tolerance as "horror all around" and the New York Times demands that Hitler was not to be pitied and the people he ruled were to be pitied.

Such a statement is based on a certain assumption. The reader from knowledge that Christians in a whole are absolute Christians to a whole of all war罪人.

Plainly enough there very little tolerance for attacking the behavior of others and the behavior of others is not the behavior of all.

Frost Days

Another Day, Another Frosty Day

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

Editor, *Our Lady of the Americas*

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