

New German Plea

Nazi Official Appeals for End of the "Jewish Boycott"

Dr. Julius Lippert, State Commissar for Berlin, said to be the real ruler of the German Capital, appealed to "America's sober business sense" to put a stop to the "Jewish boycott" in the United States against German goods. He spoke at a meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce at Berlin, and added importance was given to the occasion by the presence of high officials of the Foreign Office and of the Nazi Party.

The speech was so unlike the habitual Nazi expressions and practises in regard to the Jews that his listeners asked themselves whether it was meant as an announcement of a new policy, or offer of peace.

Not long before Doctor Lippert made his plea, Berlin correspondents recalled, Chancellor-Fuehrer Adolf Hitler refused to listen to representations about the American boycott which were being made to him by important German industrialists.

Renewal of Agitation

What is more, a renewal of anti-Jewish agitation was seen on February 26, in a warning to all Jewish publishers to sell their businesses, and in the publication in a law periodical of a proposal to prohibit marriages of German "Aryans" and "non-Aryans."

To show that American trade, as well as German, had suffered as the result of the boycott, Doctor Lippert said that Germany, in 1933, imported from the United States more than 300,000 tons of cotton, whereas the corresponding figures for 1934 was only 200,000 tons. America's representation in Germany's total imports of cotton dwindled from 75 per cent. to 60 per cent., he said.



Dr. Julius Lippert

Rather tartly he declared that it was a matter of no concern to the German consumer where he obtained the cotton he needed. But, he argued, it did make some difference to the American farmer, whose share in supplying the world's cotton requirements would shrink to 42 per cent. if Germany dropped out as the largest consumer of American cotton.

Complaint of discrimination against American business was expressed in the American colony of Berlin with the publication of figures showing that the United States sales in Germany had declined in a year to one-sixth of their previous volume.

By way of retort to the speech of Doctor Lippert more than 2,000 members and guests of the Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress heard speakers declare, at a reception in honor of Dr. Albert Einstein at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, that the boycott of German goods would continue until intolerance by the Hitler régime had been uprooted.