

In the gas chambers—where the prisoners were told to take a shower bath, and were then exterminated—we saw a large skull and crossbones painted on the door of the deadly chamber warning the attendants of the danger; in this chamber 80 men were killed at one time in 4 or 5 minutes.

### ***A Cremation Fraud***

The large cremation ovens resembled huge baker's ovens. Two bodies were cremated at the same time. In the cremation room was a large sign in German, "Cleanliness is your duty. Don't forget to wash your hands."

Then in the inspection of horrors we were taken to the room where the Nazis stored the ashes of the cremated victims. The ashes were placed in pots resembling small flower-pots—we were told that the Nazis sold these ashes to the families of the deceased for 1,000 marks. The families thought they were receiving the ashes of their loved ones, but in reality the Nazis had filled the pots from a huge vat containing ashes of all the cremated prisoners.

Going to the execution yard where the Nazis shot prisoners, we were told that the prisoners were placed behind a bamboo screen, through which the soldiers fired their volley, murdering their victims. We saw also the two notorious trees from which the Nazis hung certain victims. Wherever we went in the environment of the horror chamber, we smelled the sickly odor of death. The bodies, however, had been removed by impressed German labor.

We took time to visit the Red Cross building with its huge Red Cross signs on the roof. Here on the site occupied by workers of mercy the Nazis had maintained an arsenal of bombs, guns, etc.

We were sick at heart as we came away from the place of gas chambers, cremations, and other atrocities. It was all a pitiful, almost incredible sight.

Leaving the dreadful place, we saw German prisoners being taken out of the camp to work on the roads or into the city to clear away rubble. The SS troops were heavily guarded, but the other prisoners did not require much watching.

Motored back to Munich through the devastation and observed that sixty percent of the city is in ruins. The Post Office, Opera House, financial district, Gestapo headquarters, and Hitler's old brown house are all "kaput."

In the large parade square of the Konigs Platz we witnessed the decoration of a number of heroic American soldiers. In this square we saw 8 bronze caskets containing the remains of the original deluded disciples of Hitler who were killed on the initial march on Munich when he assumed power.

We visited St. Luke's Cathedral, which was not badly hit. Here a priest, Father Meyers, upon being released from Dachau where he had been imprisoned by the Nazis, said Mass. Six thousand people attended.

### ***Visit to Cardinal Faulhauber***

An appointment had been made for us with Cardinal Faulhauber, the one remaining cardinal in Germany. He had been ill and was not allowed by his physician to receive guests, but an exception was made in our case. His home, while not directly hit by bombs, was slightly damaged.

The cardinal received us in the large reception hall. His age is about 72. He is a kindly, benevolent man of large stature and appears, when necessary, to be very forceable. He spoke English haltingly. I told him that we were going to visit the Holy Father in Rome. He asked if I would take the message to the Holy Father that he, himself, expected to come to Rome in early October and that he hoped to be able to dispatch papers to Rome shortly through a diplomatic courier of the church.