

Bavarian Press Discusses Germany's Future Position

Recent editorial comment in the Bavarian press featured speculation and commentaries on the political and economic future of Germany in relation to Europe and the world, according to a survey by the Information Control Division of OMG Bavaria.

Looking forward to the Paris conference to start preliminary work on the problem of what to do with Germany, newspapers brought forth arguments and hopes in relation to Germany's future position. The *Neue Presse*, Coburg, stated: The planning of European economy is made easier, especially because the war years developed a tendency toward international economy. It is hard to believe that something which showed its successful application during the war should be given up now. That it will be harder to win the peace than the war must bring with it the understanding that reorganization of Germany can be only worked out collectively and on a continental level."

Advising its readers not to expect leniency or any particular benefits, the *Passauer Neue Presse*, Passau, warns: "In the eyes of the other nations, the war and bloody orgy brought about by the Nazi regime has caused feeling against the greatest part of the German people, the consequences of which can only be gradually changed.

The trials in Nuremberg, Mauthausen and Dachau bring out again and again the horrors in their real proportion. Not being forgotten is the fact that the other nations made sacrifices in blood and material. Not being forgotten, too, is the fact that the war, conceived by German National Socialism, impoverished also Englishmen, Russians and Frenchmen, that the food problem therefore

is acute in their countries, and that they would have to be supermen to forget what is most responsible for it all."

German Dismemberment

In an editorial on foreign policy the Berlin *Neues Deutschland* rejects Bidault's plan for separation of the Rhineland and Saar and Bevin's proposals "which also deal with the dismemberment of German unity."

"France's plans," declares the paper, "would take away from Germany any possibility of living. The realization of these plans would make it impossible for Germany to live; that is to say, it would bring about just that which was rejected in the Potsdam declaration."

Admitting France's need for security, the paper claims it cannot be reached by splitting up German soil. "Only when the power is given into the hands of the German people and a real democratic regime is provided in Germany will France find the security which she can and must demand," states the SED central organ.

Regarding Bevin's proposals the paper said the British plans cannot be regarded as a preventative measure against German aggression, particularly when one realizes that the war potential of the iron and steel magnates is maintained.

Berlin Radio Comment

Information Control Division's public opinion surveys came in for use by *Radio Berlin* which cited one survey that showed 37% of those questioned stating that Nazism was a bad thing, whereas 53% found Nazism quite good but thought it had been interpreted badly.

"These 53%," charged the radio, "are those who are afraid of their own responsibility and of their own consciences . . . Even the

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