cheaply as possible. Consciousness that a truly diabolic error had been committed could not help rising among the very people who had displayed the greatest genius in creating industrial equipment. In the light of these considerations, however summary they may appear, you will perceive the soul and centre of the German upheaval that we are now watching so anxiously. The spirit is turning over, like a man asleep.

IV. Life in a Nazi Camp

By a Prisoner

From *The Times*, London Conservative Daily

FOR three years I was a pupil at the Agricultural School founded at Wolzig, near Königswüsterhausen, in 1929 by the Jewish Agricultural Committee. I am not a Jew but my family are poor, and, as the pupils at this school did not have to pay for either tuition or board and lodging, I was sent to study there. Besides, the teaching was supposed to be the best in Germany, and the school, being new, was very well fitted up. The farm belonging to it had livestock and all the latest equipment, including tractors, which you had to learn to drive dead straight across a field of barley. I had my certificate as a farm driver. In the evenings, after my work on the farm, I learned bookkeeping and typing. This year they started giving me 17 marks a week for my work.

The director of the school, Dr. Friedmann, was a Jew, and so were about 30 of the 43 pupils. Besides farming, courses were given in gardening, carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking, and the workshops of each branch were in first-class order. Our ages ran between 13 and 18. None of us cared about politics; we were interested only in animals and in making things grow.

About the middle of May some S.A. men from the village came to inspect the school. They soon decided that it would do nicely for quartering voluntary labor contingents. Nothing happened till June 20. I got up that morning at about 5.30 and went to fetch corn to feed the chickens. When I reached the house again I saw all my fellow pupils and the staff standing in a line in front of a group of S.A. men. I was roughly told to line up too, and we were forced to climb into four lorries that the Nazis had brought to the door. We had to leave all our belongings behind. If we did not hurry to get into the lorries we were beaten with iron and hard-rubber cudgels. Then the S.A. leaders started off in their motor-cars while we followed in the lorries, each of which was armed with a machine gun. We were packed tight, thirty S.A. men and ten of us in each lorry. The S.A. men came from Berlin and belonged to three detachments of the Storkow troop. They were all heavily armed.

After an hour's drive we reached the Adolf Hitler Haus in the Voss-strasse in Berlin, where we had to wait for about three hours. We were not allowed to get out of the lorries and a crowd collected round us. The S.A. men told everybody to look at us well,

as we were Jews and our fathers had robbed Germany of all its money since the War. When the people heard that they jeered at us, but we were beaten if we tried to reply to them.

At last the lorries moved off again and we were taken to the concentration camp at Oranienburg, about half an hour's drive from Berlin. We arrived at a building that had formerly been a power plant, and were told to get out. For about three hours we had to stand upright in a line in front of the door before they let us in; if anyone tried to sit down he was beaten. After that we were taken upstairs to a room where one S.A. man took our photographs in three positions, another took our fingerprints, a third removed everything from our pockets, and a fourth wrote down a description of each of us. Next we were shown a pile of straw and told to take as much of it as we needed for bedding. We then went into a large hall, which we were told was the place where in future we should sleep, eat, and generally live. Each was given a small cup of coffee and a piece of black bread, our first food for the day, and told to be careful not to complain.

Next day the camp routine began for us. We had to get up at five in the morning and do two hours' drill and military training. This consisted in instruction in handling rifles, in taking cover during air raids, in preparing to meet gas attacks, and in drill of every kind. Then came breakfast—a cup of coffee and two slices of black bread with jam. Manual work occupied us until twelve, when we had a pint of watery soup mixed with beans. On Sundays rice was added and, if you were lucky, you were given a slice of bread too. Work continued until late in the day, and there were two more hours of military training under the supervision of discharged soldiers who had enrolled as S.A. men. We were then given another cup of coffee with some more bread, and finally went to bed on our heaps of straw. The youngest of us, Manfred Benjamin, aged only 13, received the same treatment as the others and spent most of the time in tears.

Soon after my arrival a Nazi asked me if I could use a typewriter. I replied that I could, and he took me to the commandant of the camp, Captain Krüger, who gave me a job in the office. Here I learned something about how the camp was run and had a chance to talk to some of the prominent prisoners, such as the managing director of the German Broadcasting Company and the mayors of several of the smaller towns. I found there were about 2,500 prisoners in the camp, of whom only 5 per cent were Jews. The rest were Communists, Social Democrats, and other political enemies of Hitlerism. On August 18 about 102 S.A. men who had been 'lazy' were brought in for punishment. They underwent the same treatment as the others, except that they were not beaten. The routine was much the same for all the prisoners, although the Jews were made to keep to themselves and had to live in an enclosure about 25 yards square at one end of the camp. Prominent prisoners were punished more often than the others but everybody had his full share of beating, especially when the Nazis came back late in the evening from the neighboring beer saloon. Then they would come into the great hall and beat some of the prisoners savagely. They would also scrub them brutally

all over with black boot polish and come back the next day to see if it had been washed off yet. If not, they scrubbed the prisoners again. In the whole camp there were only four closets and one hydrant for washing.

II

The camp was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence of seven ordinary strands and an electric live wire. We were warned not to go near it by red flags placed about five yards from it all along. The camp garrison consisted of about 300 men, divided into two watches, one of which was always on duty. Twenty men were posted on the roof of the main building with machine guns, and twenty more stood round it. Others were on guard at various places inside and outside the camp. There was no chance of escaping. At night the camp was lit by searchlights, and guards would come into the hall where we slept and flash torches on the prisoners.

My work in the office was to keep accounts, typewrite messages, and take fingerprints. I discovered that the camp had belonged at first only to the Nazis and had been taken over by the Government on April 22. Every prisoner was kept for a minimum of eight weeks and few had been released. They were all made to exchange every penny they had for camp money on their arrival and to pay 2.50 marks a day for their keep; the state provided 1.50 marks a day. In practice, the S.A. men pocketed all the money, as they sent out detachments to commandeer everything that was needed in the camp from the country round and entered up false accounts in the camp books. As for other personal belongings, these were put in a sack and divided among the S.A. men every week. When prominent prisoners arrived they were questioned. The commandant asked them where papers or weapons belonging to Communists were hidden and ordered them to answer quickly if they did not want to be 'helped.' 'Help' meant beating. When Herr Braun, of the Broadcasting Company, came down from the commandant's room he had had such a bad time that his eyes were closed and he could hardly see. One of us boys asked him if he would like some water to bathe his eyes, but he answered that he was afraid we should only get into trouble if we did anything for him and, in any case, he had 'finished with life.'

The posts were controlled by two S.A. officers, who opened all the letters that arrived in the camp and carefully censored them. Prisoners were never allowed to seal their own envelopes but had to hand their letters open to S.A. men. Once a week they might receive parcels weighing up to eleven pounds, which were usually not intercepted. On Sundays from 2 to 4 P.M. they could be visited by their relations, who might bring them presents; these, of course, were controlled. When it was reported that 'foreign aëroplanes had flown over Berlin,' the commandant called us together and told us that as a punishment we should receive no visits for three weeks, no letters for one week, and no lunch for two days.

The camp guard was made up of S.A. men, common people of the lowest kind. They get one mark for a full day's work and are given their board and lodging free. Every Monday they did military training with

the *Reichswehr* in a little forest near the camp. The commandant and the higher commanders were S.S. (*Schutzstaffel*) men; these are enrolled from the upper classes and the old nobility and form the bodyguard of the Nazi leaders. They are better armed, and when the S.A. men are slack they stir them up. The result is that S.S. and S.A. men hate one another; when the S.S. came to inspect the camp they would generally quarrel with the S.A. guard. If both were drunk, as often happened, and had tired of beating prisoners they would fight among themselves.

The prominent prisoners included many members of the Reichstag and of the Landtag. Dr. Ludwig Levy, the state attorney of Potsdam, and the managing director of the Berlin Traffic Company had both been arrested in March and kept in the camp ever since. Well-known people like these were beaten every day and frequently deprived of lunch and visits. Two men committed suicide while I was there: Hermann Hagendorf, of Anhalt, who cut the veins of his wrist, and Walter Klausch, who hanged himself with his belt. Most of the prisoners dared not say a word after they had been beaten, but all night you could hear them groaning. When they were released they all had to sign two papers—a white one saying that the living conditions in the camp were good, and a blue one by which they promised to be good citizens in future.

The camp was run according to the whim of the commandant. Orders received in the office from outside authorities were mainly telegraphic messages telling the S.A. men where to look for arms and papers belonging to Communists.

At last, on August 22, the commandant decided to release us boys, who had only been arrested because the Government had no cheaper way of providing for us after they had taken over our school. He came at about 10.30 P.M. and told us we had two minutes to leave the camp; if we were not gone by that time we should never be let out at all. We went as fast as we could down the road to Berlin, and passed the night under a hedge about five miles from the camp. Early the next morning I went to a barber's shop and telephoned to the Jewish Agricultural Committee to come and fetch us. They brought us to Berlin in motor-cars, and there we slept in beds with sheets on them for the first time for two months.

A few days later, as I had a driving license, I managed to get a job as chauffeur to a lady who wanted to go to Switzerland, where my family were. At last we reached our destination, St. Gall, and I was safe.

V. Jazz in Japan

By Professor Leopold Winkler

Translated from the *Neue Freie Presse*, Vienna Liberal Daily

EUROPEAN and American fads need time to reach Japan. But when they do arrive they catch hold with amazing force and reveal the tenacity of the Orient. Things that have gone out of style years ago in the West will