

## Revulsion

Anti-Semitism was old in this world even when Pharaoh's taskmasters beat the children of Israel and commanded them to produce bricks without straw.

Like mankind's other lingering barbaric prejudices, racial and religious bigotry recognizes no boundaries and varies from country to country only in form and degree. We must admit, with shame, that flare-ups of anti-Semitism and other intolerances have at times blackened our own history. The savage hatreds that flamed in Ku Kluxism have never been completely extinguished.

Knowing the prejudices that smoulder in the breasts of a small minority of our own citizens, many who cherish America's proud tradition of tolerance have feared that the pogrom hates of Europe might span the Atlantic. We have seen how quickly they were spread into Italy, into Czechoslovakia and along the brutalitarian axis.

But the sheer horror now raging in Germany has stirred a revulsion in the mass conscience of America, as it has in England and France and other lands where people still live under the democratic ideal that makes all men equal before the law. This ghastly demonstration of what can happen, once passions are unloosed, has caused many Americans to count as never before the consequences of giving rein to bigotry.

A 17-year-old Polish Jew, temporarily crazed, shoots a Nazi official in Paris. In revenge for that boy's crime, mobs of Nazi hoodlums are loosed in the streets of Germany to destroy and pillage the property of Jews. Thousands of Jews are jailed and sent to concentration camps. The psychopathic tyrants of the Reich issues decrees—

Levying a \$400,000,000 fine against the 500,000 German Jews; confiscating all insurance due them for destruction of their property and compelling them to repair the damage at their own expense; forbidding them to operate stores or factories, to hold any important jobs in German corporations, or to attend movies, concerts, museums, lectures or dance halls.

Acts and decrees, these, which terrorize, pauperize and ostracize a whole people for the sole offense of worshipping their God in their own way, or having ancestors who did.

Seeing this, Americans are shocked into resolution that the seeds which sowed this tyranny shall not take root in our soil.