Hitler's BLOOD PURGE

By Kurt G. W. Ludecke

Germany's Day of Terror
Five Years Ago

Foreword. Five years ago next Saturday the world was stunned by what it read in its morning paper (it was Sunday morning). All the world read the story before the red hand of death had fallen heavily on Germany. Adolf Hitler had recklessly procured his power by means of a blood purge in which 8,000 to 12,000 persons lost their lives. Here is the inside story of what happened at that time, and how it happened, and who won in the struggle of the National Socialist party—the party of Hitler.

The precise historian who in some distant future seeks to analyze the purge is likely to have to deal entirely with opinions laid down for propaganda by Hitler's contemporary foes and by the admiring beneficiaries of his rights. The archives of the Gестапо or other agencies will be careful not to offer unfavorable documentary evidence. The chief assassins undoubtedly have not confided compromising data to paper. Hitler alone knows both sides of the story. When he, Hermann Goering, Paul Joseph Goebbels, Franz von Papen, and Werner von Blomberg write their memoirs their explanations of the massacre will all have to be taken with more than a grain of salt. History has not always succeeded in probing obscurity to the bottom, and perhaps never will sound this pit.

The interpretation of the blood purge offered here is based on intimate knowledge of the natures of Hitler and his tools.

The threats voiced on the occasion of Hitler's speech at Bad Reichenhall on July 2, 1933, had not banished the specter of the "second revolution" that had boomed over the nation since March of that year. The general discon- (Continued on page three.)

Addressing C.A. and S.D. leaders, Hitler declared: "I will crush terror and revolution in every form and put it to rout. Wherever there be opposition to the National Socialist spirit, there will be the end of the revolutioners. Wherever there is opposition to the National Socialist spirit, there will be terror, and revolution. We will crush it all!"

(Abominable Press photo.)—Gerd Rittel