

He who beats his tom-tom loudest is more likely to get a big audience than he who remains shy and modest. The public's task, of course, is to be able to tell the difference between mere noise and acceptable harmony. That relates to political promises, especially.

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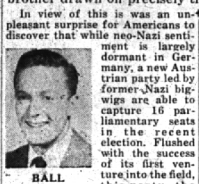
USE THE ECCENTRIC WANT ADS FOR BEST RESULTS

Editor of Innsbruck Paper Is Interviewed

"Less Paper, More Truth Than Under Nazis" Is Newspaper's Slogan

By Robert Ball
Special Correspondent for The Eccentric

INNSBRUCK, Austria.—To most people, Austria is more apt to mean leather breeches, new wine, and zither music than bayonets, secret police and mass demonstrations. It is common, in fact, to hear the contrast between the civilized "getmutlich" Austrian and his German big brother drawn on precisely those lines.



ROBERT BALL

In view of this it was an unpleasant surprise for Americans to discover that while neo-Nazi sentiment is largely dormant in Germany, a new Austrian party led by former-Nazi bigwigs are able to capture 16 parliamentary seats in the recent election. Fleated with the success of its first venture into the field, this party, the "Union of the Independents" has founded a somewhat fragrant newspaper with the nostalgic name of "The New Front," whose format, luxurious by Austrian standards, gives evidence of considerable financial backing.

Mistaken for German
That this new paper has at least some public was made plain to me on my first evening in Austria, when the little man sitting across the restaurant table mistook me

for a German and explained that he felt it a terrible shame that Germany had lost the war.

"With tears in his eyes he announced that he had been an ardent Nazi because, as he said, the real aim of the Party had been "to see that the boys and girls grew up to be good, useful citizens."

This blithe summation of the Nazi ideology so disturbed my digestion that the supper was still lying heavily on my stomach the next morning when I called on stout, bespectacled editor Anton Klötz, a rival paper to "The New Front."

Buchenwald Veteran
Editor Klötz, whose appearance is as kindly and fun-loving as a Dickens character, is in reality an outspoken anti-Nazi and a veteran of Buchenwald.

Since the end of the war, at first with the help of the U. S. and other papers in Innsbruck, since 1946 on his own, he has nursed the revived "Tagesszeitung" to its present state of vigorous good health as the leading newspaper in the Tirol.

Not only is the "Tagesszeitung" the biggest; it is also the only non-party paper in the area. Three other papers in Innsbruck, true to common European practice, are subsidized by the party treasurers of the Catholic, Communist, the Socialists, and the Communists.

Called 'Lunatic Fringe'
I asked Editor Klötz how he was using the Tagesszeitung to fight underground groups, and he, in general, he felt about his responsibility in shaping public opinion.

To my surprise, he pointed to the Nazi revival with a tap of his pencil on the desk.

"Just a lunatic fringe," he said, decisively. "Unlike in the Thirties before the Anschluss, there is no neighboring world power to support them."

"I save my ammunition for the Communists. With the Russians not just next door, but actually within the country to give them support, they're the real danger now."

Klötz explained that he thought the best propaganda weapon against the Communists was simply to give publicity to the facts of Russian occupation policy in Austria.

Condemned by Own Deeds.
"It's their own deeds that condemn them," he said, hunching his chair forward and peering happily over his hornrimmed glasses who are holding up the peace treaty: it's they who show the least respect for the biggest occupation costs for us to pay."

He expressed impatience with the many Austrian editors and politicians who sold all the Occupation Forces indiscriminately. "If they had a bit of sense," he said hotly, "they'd know that the minute the western troops left we'd all be in the stomach of the Russian bear."

"Of course, the occupation costs amount to something, but those expenses, such as rent and clerical help, which must be paid in local currency."

Did Lots of Thinking
"The most maddening fact is being laxed to pay the Russian occupation costs."

(It should perhaps be explained that occupation costs do not cover the total expense of maintaining an occupation force, but only those expenses, such as rent and clerical help, which must be paid in local currency.)

"In general, I try to use the paper in the interest of individual freedom," Klötz continued. "While I was in Buchenwald I had time to do a lot of thinking about that, and I promised myself that the 'Tagesszeitung' would always stand for it."

"I've never had a bit of interference in this policy from the Allied authorities. Write whatever you want to," they told me. 'As long as it's the truth.'"

In looking back, Klötz recalls the days just after the end of the war as the best of his newspaper career.

"After ten years of lies, the public was starved for the truth." "In those days newspaper was scarce. Sometimes we could only put out a two-page paper in a paper but more truth than under the Nazis" we said, and the readers ate it up.

It was an editor's dream—people were all but snatching copies out from under the press. And the best of it is that this enthusiasm has never died away.

"No," he said, leaning back in his chair, "I don't think you need to worry about the Nazis."

Closes Forum

H. BEN RUBL

H. Ben Rubl's talk on "Life Insurance and Social Security" will close the present series which has been sponsored by the Birmingham National Bank. The session will be held in the auditorium of the Baldwin library at 10 o'clock next Wednesday morning.

Rubl, a graduate of the University of Michigan, holds a B.S. degree. He has been in the life insurance business for the past 20 years and through his extensive study and research has become a "chartered life underwriter," the equivalent of a CPA in accounting.

He has also been a qualifying member in the "Million Dollar Round Table" of the National Association of Life Underwriters for the past 13 years.

Future Plans
Mrs. Edythe J. Crandell, director



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In Error

The Eccentric regrets the error which appeared in a story two weeks ago concerning Dr. Hoover Bean, D.C., of Detroit. It was correctly stated that Dr. Bean is a chiropractor, but incorrectly said he was a member of several chiropractic societies. Dr. Bean holds membership in the Wayne County and Michigan chiropractic societies.

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