Repetition is the Key in Revision

John Etty provides practical advice on a crucial activity

Done correctly, revision can be very satisfying. Working at your own pace, teaching (and re-teaching) yourself and covering material which you perhaps did not understand in the classroom can be very rewarding. At the very least, though, revision is crucial before sitting an exam. Just staring at your notes, however, is not an effective use of your time.

The Nature of Memory
The information you have learned and understood is stored in your brain, whether you realise it or not. The key to effective revision is to re-learn the material in such a way that the information is readily available in the stress of an exam. Reading through your class notes may trigger a memory of the material, but if an exam question does not trigger the memory in the same way, you will discover the knowledge was never there, you thought. The key is to learn the material in as many ways as possible so that each piece of information may be triggered by many different key words.

Revision Methods
It’s a cliché, but different people learn in different ways. Whatever learning style best suits you, there are some methods of revision which will benefit everyone.

‘Active’ Revision
Simply reading your notes or a textbook will help you to remember a certain amount of the information, but it will not remain there long if it is not reinforced. If reading is a method of revision you prefer, at least make it ‘active’ by reading with a pen in your hand. Highlight, underline, add question marks, exclamations and notes to yourself. Don’t just read and expect the material to stick inside your head - it won’t!

Use as many senses as possible
Try to engage all your faculties in the revision process. Read silently, write notes, read aloud (perhaps onto an audio tape), listen back to your recorded notes (while you read your written notes!). All these methods will stimulate the senses and help to reinforce the material.

Don’t revise for hours at a time
Strange as it may sound, once you’ve actually started your revision you may be tempted not to stop for fear of never re-starting. This is a mistake. Your concentration will begin to wane after 35 to 40 minutes. Even if you don’t feel it, your revision is getting less effective the longer you go. Instead, try revising for 15 minutes in an hour, taking a 20 minute break. Change the same topic to a different subject. When you return, during your break, or in the shower or get some fresh air, but do not watch television!

Choose your surroundings carefully
Before you even start revising make sure that you have somewhere comfortable and quiet where you can work. If playing Metallica at deafening volume helps you to work, then you can do this, but outside interference will not help you to learn.

Use different colours
Primary school may be a distant memory, but using different coloured pens to highlight key points or headings in your work can mean the difference between a daunting, unintelligible mass of writing on a page and a clearly presented system of revision notes.

Mnemonics and rhymes
Juvenile and embarrassing as this may seem, forming mnemonics (DBDDBS is a common mnemonic to help students recall the fates of Henry VIII’s wives - Divorced, Beheaded, Died, Divorced, Beheaded, Survived) and rhymes to aid revision are recognised and long-used methods of committing otherwise difficult information to memory.

Strategically placed revision material
Visualisation techniques recommend that you should copy out revision information onto pieces of paper and place them in prominent positions. Repeatedly looking at the information displayed on your walls is known to help you to store the material to memory. The theory is that you are more able to visualise the display, even when in the strange environs of the exam room.

Use different layouts
Similarly, setting your notes out in ‘spider diagrams’ or ‘mind maps’ may help you to organise your ideas on complex subjects. These can also be used to contextualise topic headings and allow you to appreciate an overview.

Index cards
Make your notes on index cards instead of just producing reams of A4 paper. This breaks your notes up into bite-size chunks of material and will make the material seem much more manageable.

Long timelines and timeframes
Synoptic units in particular can be prepared for using long timelines and timeframes. These can be produced to demonstrate change and development, or continuity over a long period. You can add depth of detail or simply use broad headings.

Pictures and cartoons
Simply because you must produce essays and extended written answers in the exam, you don’t necessarily have to revise in the same lengthy...
NSDAP Election Posters from 1932

‘Hitler’
By 1932 NSDAP propagandists were confident enough in Hitler’s ‘brand recognition’ to print this disembodied head of the Führer with simply his name underneath. The Nazi Party often billed itself as the ‘Hitler Movement’, relying on his charisma.

‘Our Last Hope: Hitler’
1930s election campaigns were clearly targeting the German unemployed, but they did less well in attracting workers. It was no coincidence that unemployment hit the SPD and above all the KPD, 85% of whose membership was unemployed by 1932.

‘German Women: Think of Your Children. Vote Hitler’
Women were also courted. They had been slow to make use of the vote granted to them in 1918, but the NSDAP was particularly successful at mobilising them. As a blatantly anti-feminist party it offered ‘security’ instead, at a time when many women had to fend for their families.

‘National Socialism: The Organised Will of the Nation’
The SA was the paramilitary wing of the NSDAP, which thrived on a heroising propaganda of violence against the Communists (note the bandage around the head of one). Horst Wessel was one of the first martyrs of the ‘Old Fighters’ but the SA proved a liability to the party once in power.
b) Votes captured from the bourgeois parties DNVP, DVP (Right wing Liberals), DDP/DSP (Progressive Libs) had their votes halved SPD vote also declined, Catholic Party remained stable, only the KPD and Nazis increased their votes.
c) Denominational Divisions - Protestants tended to vote Nazi, Catholic areas supported their own Party (inc. Bavaria) until Hitler signed the Concordat with the Pope.
d) In Protestant areas the 3 K's policy had more appeal and after 1930 the Nazis expanded their vote amongst women.
ii) In the election of Sept. 1930 highest % of Nazi voters were found in N. and E. agricultural and Protestant areas such as Schleswig-Holstein), and mixed economy areas, Silesia and Breslau.
iii) Nazis performed less well in the heavy industrial or R.C. areas such as Berlin, Westphalia, and lower Bavaria.
Research shows that the Nazis (unlike other parties except for the Catholics) refused to be confined within the traditional economic, social, religious and regional divisions on which the German party system had hitherto been based. Nazis mobilised support across the above lines. They aimed to be a 'catch-all" party rising above class and religion representing the whole nation. Bullock notes that they failed to achieve this because they became involved in contradictions and as the July 1932 election showed they never polled more than 37% of the vote. However, they drew support from a wider spectrum of the electorate than any other party.
v) SPD lost votes in heavy industrial areas and amongst blue collar workers to the KPD. The S.P.D proved successful in recruiting amongst the unemployed in Hamburg and Berlin whilst the Nazis appealed to the small scale manufacturing industries and handcraft workers outside the Trade Union influence.
v) By 1930 Nazis attracted the professions - 1928 Nazi League of German Lawyers, 1929 Doctors and the Nazi German Students Union recruited half the student body.
vii) Appealed to youth - Strasser's article "Make Way, You Old Ones" 43% of those joining Nazis 1930-33 were below 30 years old.
vii) BUT HALF OF THE W/C POPULATION VOTED FOR KPD/SPD, with 40% of total M/C pop voting for Nazis. The OLD M/C in countryside and town, Nazis penetrated Pensioner M/C and also the New Mittlestand whose support appears less impressive than the old M/C
The NSDAP became according to Thomas Childers 'a party of Middle class integration - a Sammelbewegung" 
vii) Richard Hamilton finally notes that the size of the Nazi vote varied "inversely with the size of the community"
from those who stayed with it to the end, which seems unlikely).

Table 1 gives some indication of the social composition of the Nazi membership. In particular, it shows that while workers were under-represented in comparison with the population as a whole, they nevertheless formed by far the largest single group. Table 2 shows that of those who joined before 1933 a disproportionate number were under 40. Finally, it is impossible to place women in occupational or social categories, since they were included in the figures for various occupations, particularly peasants and white-collar workers, in addition to the separate category of housewives. However, one can say that in 1935 they were heavily under-represented — 5.5% of the party were women, whereas 52.2% of the German population over the age of 18 were women.

### NADY VOTERS

#### The confessional effect

What kinds of people made up the Nazi electorate? First, all researchers are unanimous that religious denomination or confession was the most important single factor in determining who was more or less likely to vote Nazi. The census of 1933 revealed that 63% of the German population were Protestant; 33% were Catholic; 0.8% were Jews and around 0.3% were other denominations or none. What is more, most districts were either overwhelmingly Protestant or Catholic. Only 1 in 7 were confessionally mixed. It was, above all, rural Catholic districts which proved most resistant to Nazism. In his book Hitler’s Wähler (Hitler’s Voters)1990, Jurgen Falter has estimated that the Catholic Centre Party and its sister party, the Bavarian People’s Party, lost only 600,000 voters to the Nazis between 1928 and 1933, a period when the Nazi vote went up from 810,000 to over 17 million.

However, this argument must be qualified. First, the confessional effect varied according to the different phases of the party’s electoral history. It only emerged from December 1924 and particularly after 1928. In the May 1924 election the Nazi electoral bastions were confessionally mixed but socially homogeneous, namely agrarian. Between 1919 and 1924 the Nazi Party had been mainly based in Bavaria, with its core in Catholic southern Bavaria. It was in the period 1928–30, however, that the centre of Nazi successes moved from south to north and above all to the overwhelmingly Protestant northeast. By 1932, in the north and east almost half the electorate voted Nazi, whereas in the largely Catholic west only one-third did so. However, in terms of numbers as opposed to percentages of votes the picture looks slightly different: For the area which produced the largest number of Nazi votes, namely 40%, was the heavily-populated electoral districts in the centre of Germany, in Protestant Saxony, whereas only 10% came from the lightly settled northeast and northwest.

The second qualification is that between August 1932 and March 1933 the gap between Protestant and Catholic support for the Nazi Party was narrowing. In the November 1932 election the drop in the Catholic vote for the Nazis of 2.4% was significantly lower than the Reich average of 4.7% and that in Protestant districts of 6.4%. Also, in the March 1933 election, the party made something of a breakthrough in Catholic rural areas where its vote increased by 16.5% compared with 12.3% in the Reich. This breakthrough was particularly striking in Bavaria, partly at the expense of the Catholic Bavarian People’s Party but mainly at the expense of previous Catholic non-voters for whom the fact that the party now formed the government, together with the fuss about the Reichstag Fire, may well have

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Before 14.9.30</th>
<th>Before seizure of power</th>
<th>Up to 30.1.33</th>
<th>After seizure (1 January)</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Society June 1933</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
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<td>I Persons in employment</td>
<td>121,151</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>66,878</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>36,429</td>
<td>53.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Workers</td>
<td>33,944</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>14,771</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>26,223</td>
<td>37.3</td>
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<td>2 White collar employees</td>
<td>20,708</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>14,785</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>7,122</td>
<td>37.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Self-employed</td>
<td>24,563</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>18,742</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>149,124</td>
<td>31.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>artisans</td>
<td>11,059</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>55,814</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>66,873</td>
<td>32.1</td>
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<td>tradesmen</td>
<td>9,918</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>48,920</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>58,838</td>
<td>31.7</td>
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<td>professions</td>
<td>3,586</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>19,845</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>23,431</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Civil servants</td>
<td>10,015</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>46,567</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>56,987</td>
<td>18.6</td>
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<td>civil servants</td>
<td>7,992</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>36,088</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>44,090</td>
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<td>teachers</td>
<td>2,023</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>10,879</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>12,902</td>
<td>15.3</td>
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<td>5 Peasants</td>
<td>17,181</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>89,800</td>
<td>35.2</td>
<td>106,981</td>
<td>41.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Others</td>
<td>4,381</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>25,998</td>
<td>33.7</td>
<td>31,379</td>
<td>39.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Persons not in employment</td>
<td>2,453</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>11,684</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>14,137</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Pensioners</td>
<td>1,919</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>14,137</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>14,137</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Family dependents</td>
<td>5,959</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>38,084</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>44,043</td>
<td>44.9</td>
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<td>without a full-time job</td>
<td>4,673</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>19,304</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>34,010</td>
<td>72.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Students and schoolchildren</td>
<td>1,253</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>8,780</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>10,033</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>129,563</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>679,446</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>849,009</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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Note: In the percentage columns, the upper of the two figures shows the percentage of party membership on 1 January 1935; the lower figure shows the percentage of party membership within the period of time covered by each pair of vertical columns.
Schleicher gained Nazi support promising that the ban on the SA would be lifted, his duty followed on 18 June 1932 and also that the Reichstag would be dissolved. Schleicher desired an authoritarian right wing government with the basis of popular support in the form of the Nazis, thus a new election was called for 31 July.

b) Papen had little support in the Reichstag, he was opposed by the left, the Centre were hostile to the man who replaced Bruning and the Nationalists were annoyed as Papen was preferred to Hugenburg. Despite Hitler’s promise of support he attacked Papen as he had Bruning before him. Clearly, the Reichstag refused to tolerate Papen as it has Bruning. Once an election called street violence ensued as a result of lifting the ban on the SA.

c) Eighty six deaths gave Papen and Schleicher the excuse to abolish the government of Prussia on 20th July on the grounds of its ineffectiveness. A state of emergency was declared by Papen whose self-appointment as Reich Commissioner of Prussia proved unpopular as an unconstitutional act. However, this was not opposed by the Soc. Dem nor by the TU’s. Although he was congratulated by the Right wing his action failed to gain approval from the electorate.

d) The election demonstrated Nazi support as the party became the largest in Reichstag polling 13.7 million votes and 250 seats. Thus, Hitler had the constitutional right to form a government and Hindenburg refused to offer him the Chancellory. Hitler consequently rejected the offer of inclusion in the Cabinet, therefore, political deadlock was now complete. The basis of Nazi support will be dealt with at the end of this paper.

e) There followed a period of intrigue, shifting alliances. After July Nazi strength could no longer be doubted and Schleicher recognised that Nazis warranted inclusion in government but in a limited capacity. This period from August to December 1932 has been described by Noakes as "months of crisis for the Nazis" as "policy of legality had led to a cul-de-sac". Party morale declined, the SA became increasingly restless whilst Papen gained in confidence enough to dissolve the new Reichstag at its meeting on 12 September. Papen's understanding of the situation was astute, Nazis were short of funds, the electorate were wary of elections. The subsequent election held on 6 Nov. witnessed a decrease in Nazi vote to 11.7 million, 196 seats, however Papen still did not have majority support. Hitler adamantly refused to accept a Cabinet position other than Chancellor. This new election had failed to resolve the deadlock but two events favoured Papen i) improvement in economic conditions as Papen introduced Bruning's public works programme and tax credits in an attempt to combat unemployment. ii) German withdrawal from the Disarmament Conference over the issue of parity of arms impressed the Nationalists.

f) Papen, tired of Reichstag obstructions favoured a dramatic alternative which included the dissolution of the Reichstag, declaration of martial law and the establishment of a Presidential Dictatorship. The plan was
vehemently opposed by Schleicher annoyed by Papen's increasing self-confidence, friendship with Hindenburg and the realisation that Hitler could not be ignored.

g) In Nov.1932 Papen fell victim to yet another Schleicher intrigue. Papen's basis of Reichstag support lay in Nationalists and Populist parties and he threatened resignation as a tactical manoeuvre on the assumption that Hitler would be unable to form a government and Hindenburg would reinstate him to office. This plan succeeded and he intended to expedite his plan amending the constitution on authoritarian lines giving his economic policies time to work. Hindenburg agreed to this proposed naked military dictatorship, unfortunately Schleicher opposed plan believing he could divide Nazis having off sixty deputies led by Gregor Strasser. Together with Strasser and the Soc. Centre Party Schleicher hoped to bilda Reichstag majority within the framework of the constitution unlike Papen who chose to by-pass it. Schleicher played his trump card by informing the President that the Reichswehr would not approve of Papen's policy. Civil war was thus a distinct possibility together with a general strike and Polish invasion. The Reichswehr would be incapable of defending Germany against simultaneous attack, so the President had no option but to allow Papen to depart.

5. Von Schleicher 2 Dec 1932 - 28 Jan 1933.
Refer to Noakes & Pridham documents pages:

a) Reluctantly, Schleicher became Chancellor preferring to continue his intrigues under cover. His plans were also called in by i) inability to divide Nazis, Strasser voting out- manoeuvred by Hitler ii) approaches to the left also called in suspicions about public works programmes abounded iii) Right wing against his policies of price fixing, restoration of wages, relief cuts and Prussian land resettlement. Schleicher's failure to gain a Reichstag majority resulted in a proposal to dissolve it, declare state of emergency, ban the Nazis and Communist parties and postpone elections indefinitely.

b) Certain landowners and industrialists were to now play an important role in assisting Hitler to power.

_Industrialists were previously uninterested in the Nazi Party_ Thyssen and Kirdorf proved the exception before 1932. Once the economy went into depression industry still remained suspicious of anti-capitalist element of Nazi policy, therefore, Hitler had to demonstrate his lack of interest in Socialism in order to gain their confidence. This was forthcoming once the economic crisis deepened and big business became hostile to government. At the close of 1932 the big cartels of steel and iron realised that Nazis could save the economy from collapse, because they promised the destruction of parliamentary democracy and TU's and to place orders for armaments with industry ensuring profits.

c) Schleicher further alarmed big industry by wishing to co-operate with TU's, this resulted in much needed support for Hitler. "Little Franz" also
Chapter Five - Philosophy and Organisation.

Hitler deals in this section with the way in which the volkish state is to be created. The initial battle is a destructive one, to be followed by the construction of the New Order. To achieve this it will be necessary to develop a Party with a broad and dedicated mass membership. Consideration of the principles can only cause confusion and undermine people's confidence in their ideology. Other Völkish parties have not succeeded because they have failed to consider the methods by which the philosophy should be realised.

1. To create the volkish state a new force is needed. Current political parties are bound up with self-interest in the current system and are infiltrated by Jews.

2. Before laying the foundations of the new state one must ensure that likely enemies of the volkish state are dealt with. Thus the first stage of the struggle is elimination via 'negative criticism'. These methods may not be pleasant but they are necessary. Gives the examples of Marxism and Christianity which destroyed respective opponents, Russian aristocracy and Heathens, before establishing themselves.

3. Contrasts philosophies and political parties. Political parties are prone to compromise, 'positive collaboration' whilst a new philosophy must by definition be destructive of the current order and cannot work with it. Philosophy is a 'declaration of war against the existing order.'

4. A Philosophy is likely to face a concerted opposition and it needs 'the most courageous and energetic elements of its epoch.' The key principles within the movement do not need to understand in detail the idea for which they fight but should be exposed to a few, great ideas. The key requisites are
   - permeated by the necessity of the victory of his cause
   - fanatical faith in the justice and power of the cause
   - trained in rigid discipline
   - stake his life for it without reservation.

5. A Philosophy needs the primitive soldier as much as the generals. The bourgeois parties failed to involve the uneducated masses in the movement and so lacked the ability to put their ideas into effect, in contrast to the Social Democrats who had the key support of broad masses trained in party discipline. He claims that exclusive parties,
   Quote: “never understand that the strength of a political party lies by no means in the greatest possible independent intellect of the individual members, but rather in the disciplined obedience with which its members follow the intellectual leadership.”

6. In order to ensure the reliability of the masses one must transform the ideology into 'guiding principles'- hence the party programme and its 25 guiding principles. It is vital that once these principles are decided upon they are beyond dispute. There may be confusion because of the simplification but it is not the role of an ideology to discuss a programme. This would expose to discussion 'what hitherto seemed a granite principle of the movement.' If one did one cannot maintain people's 'blind faith in the correctness of the doctrine.' Gives example of Catholic Church sticking to dogmas and so preserving faith even when scientific principles seem to conflict with dogma. The 25 principles are therefore 'unshakable'. Critical revision of the theses is not desirable.

7. Only the Nazis combine a volkish philosophy with the realisation of how to put it into action. Hitler would doubtless have agreed with Marx that 'the philosophers have only interpreted the world, the point is to change it'
Some Questions on Anti-Semitism in Mein Kampf

You are first advised to read the separate article on Mein Kampf which I have provided.

Read Sources A - D.

1. According to Source A what was the mission allotted it by the creator of the universe? [2]

2. According to Source B what is meant by human culture, why does Hitler place such emphasis on this concept? [6]

3. According to B, why are the Aryans rare the "highest form of humanity", what would lead him to formulate this view? [6]

4. Why according to Source C does Hitler reject the view that the Jews is not a religious but a racial grouping? What implications does this theory have for future persecution? [6]

5. Explain the meaning of Source D of “the striving of the Jewish people for world domination”. [4]

6. What Cameron does Hitler make between Judaism and Bolshevism according to the article I’ve supplied? [6]


Total 35.
The Evolution of the NSDAP
(see also typed notes)

Sources:
The German Dictatorship - K.D Bracher
Hitler: A study in Tyranny - A. Bullock
Nazism - Volume I - Noakes and Pridham

The groundwork for the Political movements which may be considered the immediate precursors of National Socialism was laid around the turn of the Century. Völkish and anti-semitic groups which emerged in the 1890's had encouraged political thinking in wider circles. The Right wing Parties and Pressure groups which emerged at the turn of the Century found this mix of anti-semitism and Nationalism very appealing. The First World War magnified these tendencies and spread them. This Germanomania, adulation of state, anti-semitism and Nationalism combined to form the Preconditions and Origins of National Socialism.

The Austrian Precursors

The German Works Party (Deutsche Arbeiter Partei) of 1917, which Hitler encountered in Munich in 1919 was certainly nothing new or original. Though its formation and growth were closely connected with the period 1913-1919, it could not have come into being except for the intellectual social and political growth of Austro-German Völkisch Nationalism. It was one of the numerous Sectarian 'anti' movements.

i) Anti semitic
ii) Anti Western
iii) Anti Slav or Anti Jew

Indeed, the D.A.P. was actually formed in Bohemia and Moravia, two areas of the later area, Czechoslovakia. The Party's initial appeal up to the rise of Hitler was founded on a number of significant promises.

1. The party had its roots in the Working Class and only gradually, as the Hitler movement grew, did its influence spread to the peasantry, the middle class and the military. In its appeal to the masses, its revolutionary ingredient remained its dominant appeal and its promise for a sweeping renewal of state and society.

2. It emphasised the Virulent Opposition to Everything Foreign in the Nation, especially Czechs and Jews and with this came the Völkisch beliefs in violent Nationalism.

3. Thus the solution to the problems lay not in accommodation, not in a stabilization of the Status Quo but in Forceful Expulsion, Lebensräum and protecting the Worker in a
The Relative Prosperity of the Republic (1924-28)

It is vital here that you should refer to the typed notes on 'apparent stability' sheets (9-12). The so called Stasemann years. What changes did Stasemann bring about? The following should be well known to you:-

2. Dawes Plan: 1924 which reorganised and graded the reparation system and gave vital US Loans for the recovery of German industry after 1923.
3. The Locarno Agreement whereby after Stasemann negotiated the territorial arrangements of Versailles.
4. As as result Germany was admitted to the League of Nations (1926).
5. By the Treaty of Berlin in 1926, Stasemann concluded an agreement in the East with the USSR.
6. In 1927 the allies agreed to withdraw from the First Zone of occupation in the Rhineland.
7. In August 1928 Germany signed the Kellog-Briand Pact which renounced war, significantly on Equal Terms with the allies.
8. Spectacular industrial recovery emerged, German industrial production recovered to 102% by 1927. By 1928 unemployment had fallen to 650,000. In addition both retail trade and wages rose during this period.
9. Finally there was a decline in political assassination, the far right paramilitary groups became more amenable to civilian Control.

These were on the fact Of the Golden of Versailles under the astute control of the Chancellor Stasemann. Translated into simple terms, more food, more money, more jobs and more security meant that, despite reorganisation of his party and his propaganda made little headway. Yet does this tell the whole story?

2. According to Noakes and Pridham three qualifications need to be made. (p57-58)

i) The economic prosperity was based on very insecure foundations. During 1924-28 German industry borrowed extensively on the USA market at high rates of interest and on a short term basis. If economic difficulties occurred in the US, many of these loans were liable to recall at short notice.

ii) By the end of 1927, Agriculture, Artisans and small retailers were already in Economic difficulties. The period 1924-1929 saw a shift towards big business and organised labour and against these groups. As well as this, the Mittelstand were forced to pay, in 1927, high taxes and social security contributions for their employees as well as interest rates.

iii) At the end of 1927, a world wide agricultural depression began exacerbated by trade treaties with countries Poland, where Germany had to import agricultural produce in return for German industrial good. Once again the agricultural and Mittelstand sectors of the
GERMANY 1928 - 1933

Five main themes are to be explored:-
1. Impact of Depression on Germany. Hitler contributed to Weimar's destruction however, he did not create the crisis but exploited the economic situation. Without the Depression the Nazi seizure of power is highly questionable. Depression worse in Germany than in other countries.
2. The Erosion of the Democratic Middle Ground 1920-1932. Several parties of the Centre contracted at an earlier period. This allowed extreme parties NSDAP and KPD to flourish. Hence the Depression reinforced by the political shift allowed Hitler to come to power.
3. Who Voted for the Nazis?
The fear of Communism is extremely important as 13 million people were not all "Odin Worshippers" In the 1920's specific groups were targetted by Nazis and by the Winter of 1932 Hitler had a large number of votes but failed to gain a clear majority. As Hitler was not voted into power he needed the assistance of powerful groups within the establishment.
4. The role of Industry and the Army will be discussed in assis sting him to power.
5. Was January 1933 the end of Weimar? There remained a lot of "unfinished business" - Jan. 1933. Chancellor, August 1934 Fuhrer and Chancellor, thus Head of State and Head of government, also Commander in Chief of German armed forces who had sworn an oath of personal allegiance. By the Spring of 1935 Conscription had been introduced and expansion planned.

1. Depression
Germany hit worse than any other country for 2 reasons:- a) German industry had launched an export drive in the 1920's once the currency stabilised. Inflation had allowed Industrialists to modernise factories and machinery which resulted in the penetration of export markets. In the depression these export markets contract causing unemployment to rise. b) After 1924 the German economy was strong attracting foreign investment especially from USA in form of short-term loans. After 1929 USA pull out capital causing the German economy to contract. Unemployment rose to 6 million in 1932 (average figure of 4.5 milion seasonally adjusted). These statistics under-estimate true figures of between 8-9 million unemployed by Summer 1932. By Autumn another 5 million were on short time. Unemployment was a huge problem as blue collar industrial workers affected and also white collar lower middle class workers. Unemployment was far
path of legality. Nazis worked the political system, but in the mid-1920's were a fringe party centred in Munich, not a big national party. By Sept. 1928 they had 12 seats in Reichstag due to the system of P.R. which enabled small parties to be represented. Big Breakthrough came in Sept. 1930 with 107 seats and then in July 1932 they achieved their best ever performance in an election with 230 seats, however this was reduced in November to 196.

12 > 107 > 230 > 196. This was a fringe party that grew and grew despite the setback in Nov. 1932.

By 1932 the Nazis were the biggest political movement in Germany and employed MODERN TECHNIQUES. GOEBBELS PROPAGANDA WAS VERY MODERN and aimed to attract different groups within society.

Who Voted For the Nazis?

13 million supported them, not a splinter group but a very large mass movement which appealed to different sections of society according to a) religion b) class c) age d) gender e) other factors.

a) Religion - Protestants who identified with German Nationalism. Catholics had cause to be worried by extreme Nationalism (Bismark's Kulturkampf). Religion was important in German politics. Exceptions to rule in Bavaria the North was Protestant whilst Nazis did less well in RC areas of Bavaria. b) Class - Nazis have traditionally been assumed by historians to attract the lower M/C vote but recent interpretations offer refinements in that Upper and Upper M/c supported Nazis in 1930 but as this group was small in numbers it failed to register in voting system. Small business supported Nazis giving financial assistance. Work in heavy industrial areas belonged to TU's tended NOT to vote NSDAP choosing either KPD (against Republic) or SPD (pro-Republic). BUT NOT ALL WORKERS WORKED IN THESE AREAS AND THOSE WHO HAD RECENTLY MIGRATED, OR WORKED IN SMALL TOWNS OR OTHER INDUSTRIES VOTED NAZI. THUS, A DIFFERENT PATTERN OF VOTING BEHAVIOUR IS NOTED. c) Age - Young rather than the old voted Nazi and KPD as those older voted for democratic parties run by elderly statesmen. Young, dynamic image of Nazis appealed not elderly who had lost WWI and ruined the economy. Hitler himself was only 40 and appeared dynamic rushing around in cars and planes in election campaigns. Young afraid of repercussions of economic crisis. d) gender - initially men more than women voted Nazi but as Hitler adopted a "responsible" image he gained the female vote. e) 3 other factors i) if you worked in provinces more likely to vote Nazi and if Protestant ii) small farmers supported Nazis in economic depression and iii) Non-Voters began to vote Nazi as crisis deepens as scared by alternative. By 1932/33 Hitler began to pick up non-voters, females and Catholic voters.
4. Industrialists and Army supported Hitler.

By November 1932 Hitler realised that support was necessary from these areas:- a) INDUSTRY - it is a myth that the Nazis were a group of "boot boys" created by big business, but Business did harm the Republic. Why did Nazis rise to power and the Republic become weaker?

BY 1930 THIS GROUP WAS ANTI-REPUBLIC AND ANTI WELFARE STATE. Unemployment benefits had cost a lot of money and also big business had made life harder for small business as they got USA loans and did deals with the TU's.

b) ARMY Important in bringing Hitler to power Dec/Jan 1933 than business as soldiers have guns. In Germany's case soldiers also had prestige, Hindenburg was an old Army General who could be influenced at crucial points by soldiers. Military Attitudes towards Nazis governed by short and long term considerations. Army petrified that the political system was becoming increasingly isolated and unrepresentative, afraid that they may have to defend Papen against Nazis and KPD. Afraid of internal problems and also external threat of Polish invasion in 1932 (Polish army twice the size of Germany's). Thus by 1932 realised had to do a deal with Nazis to stabilise the political system. The long term aim was rearmament and turning Germany away from the welfare state. Socialists want clinics and not battleships. Thus the Army want a WARFARE STATE and not a welfare state - "Nation in Arms" who wanted to "organise Europe after Versailles. Army's support for Hitler was a decisive factor and by April 1934 an oath of personal allegiance had been sworn to Hitler enabling him to conclude the Nazi Seizure of Power.
WEIMAR GERMANY 1928 - 1930

The following are to be considered USING CLASS NOTES AND HANDOUTS from S.J.Lee Aspects of European History and M>Fulbrook History of Germany:-

1. FOR GENERAL ONGONING DEBATE Was Weimar doomed from the start? List reasons for its collapse under the headings STRUCTURAL, POLITICAL AND EXTERNAL CAUSES.

MULLER'S Coalition was attacked by both INTERNAL and EXTERNAL FORCES. Identify them and consider which do you consider to be the most important cause of his resignation in March1930?

2. Make notes on the following events assessing their effects both on Weimar in general and Muller specifically. Stresemann's death, Wall Street Crash, Young Plan, Law Against the Enslavement of the German People and the dispute over Unemployment payments.

3. Do you consider it useful to describe 1929 as a watershed or are strands of continuity discernible?

4. GROWTH of Nazi Party's Importance. Define Volksgemeinschaft. Why did Hitler appeal to this group? Who was HUGENBURG? Why was he important to NSDAP? Which strands of Nazi ideology are apparent in the speech of Kube at Oldenburg in 1928? Why was it necessary for Point 17 of the Nazi Party Programme to be clarified?

5. Outraged nationalism, economic difficulties, anti-Marxism. Which of these factors most aided the rise of the Nazi party in 1928 - 1930. (All three factors are important in differing degrees at different times in this period)

6. Why did the Nazis then grow in SIZE and ELECTORAL SUPPORT? Was it a German "catch - all" party of protest?

7. To what extent did Hitler exploit Weimar's weakness better than his enemies? Why did Weimar Republic collapse to the Right and not the Left in 1933?
PARTIES, AND BEEN JUST ABLE TO INFLUENCE EVENTS.


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